



# February Newsletter

2/2022

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**Meeting at the  
715 Moose Lodge Hall  
2307 Lakeside Dr.  
Lynchburg, VA 24501  
3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month  
7:00 pm until 9:00 pm.**

**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.**

## President's Meanderings:

By James Tomlin

Hello Everyone,

I hope that you all are doing well considering the season and viruses. I know a few of you have been battling covid and dealing with the loss of loved ones. Please know our club is not just a group of like minds that share a wonderful hobby. We also care about one another and are here for you. It saddens me to hear of a loss amongst our members and all of our hearts go out to you and your family. For those we have lost, we will always have our memories and fond stories to tell in remembrance.

Good things are in the works! I had a meeting with the FMVA and there are a lot of exciting opportunities and possibilities for us all to benefit. For beginner Rockhounds there will be RockHounding 101 classes available. There are talks of safety courses to allow access to mines and sites for collecting. The FMVA is a wonderful and driven organization with many opportunities. I would suggest everyone to check them out and maybe be a part of their community as well.

We need a field trip when this weather lets up, haha. I have found myself walking along my driveway looking for hidden treasures. On the bright side I did find a nice piece of pink calcite with iridescent hematite inclusions from Appomattox. I am hoping to have some more field trips this year and some new collecting sites to scout out. Here is to a hopefully fruitful year of collecting and driveway finds my friends.

Your Fellow Rockhound,  
James Tomlin

## 2020 Officers

### PRESIDENT

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### First Vice President

Steve Boylan  
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### Second Vice President

Carl Pilat  
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### Secretary – Holly Tomlin

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### Treasurer – Joan Moore

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### Membership – Debbie Wade

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### Editor – Steve Gordon

(434) 942-1836  
stevegordon@comcast.net

### Members At Large -

Eric Routon

### Youth Out Reach

## First Vice President

From the First Vice President

Virginia is the bestest commonwealth to find rocks and minerals because we have igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks and gold. All in the same place.

Let's get organized with a common vocabulary. For the program we use three lists. The long list contains every possible program we can think of. All of your program suggestions are initially placed on the long list. Some of these we will do, some we will not. The short list contains program topics with the name of an individual and contact information. We really need the name of the presenter and the contact information. The individual is sent a request to do a program. The booked list is when the individual presenter confirms that he or she will do the program for a specific date. The booked list appears in the newsletter as the program schedule. Just like contracting with the government.

This club belongs to the members. We have an open invitation for all members to make presentations at the meeting. Or if you know of an interesting presenter let us know.

And of course I still love you. Cheers. Steve Boylan



## Programs for 2022

JANUARY MEETING 01/18/2022 Crystallography of Snow by Mother Nature

FEBRUARY MEETING 02/15/2022

Stereoscopic Photography in Mineralogy by Boris Staroska

We review stereo-3d images on several devices and in several formats, and demonstrate simple methods to get you started making

your own. To get the most out of the demonstration, download "3Dsteroid" for your smartphone. Learn to create a visual record that captures and reveals semi-transparency, inclusions and other internal structures, reflectivity and sparkle in your mineral or gemstone collection.

#### MARCH MEETING 03/15/2022

Collectors Night - All club members are invited to share your collection with other members. Bring about three pieces from your collection of minerals and rock, crafts, gem trees, wire wrappings, cabochons. Put labels on your items. And be sure to have a placard with your name and the name of your display. Awards will be given for best in show, largest, smallest, best craft and other categories.

APRIL MEETING 04/19/2022 - Demonstration Night - Skilled craft people are invited to showcase your skills. We are looking for demonstrations for gem tree building, lapidary, jewelry manufacturer and other skills associated with gemology. Let us know if you can help out by making a demonstration.

#### MAY MEETING 05/17/2022

The History of the Historic Rutherford Mine Pegmatites, From Pre-Columbian Times to the Present by Scott Duresky.

Scott Duresky will again talk about the Rutherford pegmatite in Virginia and address all questions. So send us some questions about the Rutherford pegmatite and we will get answers.

#### JUNE MEETING 06/21/2022

Collecting Quartz Crystals in Saltville Virginia, video provided by The Virginia Mineral Project, Friends of Mineralogy Virginia Chapter

Saltville quartz crystals have become a classic locality for Virginia mineral collectors over the years. Come learn about the locality and what Saltville has to offer outside minerals. Plenty of photos from the field!

#### JULY MEETING OPEN

July 23, 2021 Annual Show and Sell 715 Moose Lodge

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## In Loving Memory



**Marsha Larson  
Engelstad  
Dec. 8, 1940 –  
Dec. 17, 2021**

William "Bill" Tinsley passed  
January 13, 2022 husband  
of Dee Tinsley

## Field Trips

### Club Field Trips

None at this time

### South Eastern Federation Field Trips (Dixie Mineral)

An Official Field Trip of the Tennessee Valley Rock and Mineral Society (Chattanooga, TN) (HOST)

**Saturday, February 19, 2022**

**9:00 am CST**

**Ross Creek**

**Gruetli-Laager, TN**

An Official Field Trip of the Mobile Rock & Gem Society (Mobile, AL) (HOST)

**SUNDAY, March 20, 2022**

**9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Eastern**

**Patty Construction Quarry**

**7525 Hwy 27, Summerville GA**

**Unlimited Participants**

**No Fee**

**NOTE:** DMC field trips will continue to be planned and scheduled, but may be cancelled or rescheduled pending COVID-19 status. If there are any changes to a trip, all contacts listed for DMC member clubs will be notified via email as soon as possible. The DMC trip schedule page on the SFMS website (<https://www.southeastfed.org/sfms-field-trips/dmc-field-trip-program/dmc-field-trip-schedule>) will also be updated with the current status of trips. **Lori Carter, DMC Coordinator**

**Interested see Flyer sent out – If you did not get the flyer let me know.**

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## Note from the Editor

Hello All,

Well, as I am writing this I am about to have a knee replacement done. I will not make it to the February meeting but hope to be back in walking shape by March. I have sent other emails out that shows the DMC field trips that are available. If you need me to resend anything just email me and when I can I will get that out to you.

Thanks to those that have sent me pictures and I will incorporate them when I can.

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

Pictures by Mark Davis of the Richmond Gem and Mineral Society. Trip was to the US Silica Quarry in Montpelier, VA with RGMS – Rich Simcsak and Dave Lines went as members of the Richmond club.



Dave holding a piece of andesine --- silver flash moonstone.



This one shows the high wall in the northeast portion of the quarry --- note the “anticline” geological formation of “bowed” rock strata.

## **Note from the Membership Chair-person**

**Debbie Wade**

Hello all,

First, a reminder that our Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg is now on a January 1 through December 31 membership year. Membership fees are now all due annually before January 31st. Very few members have renewed thus far.

For those that are getting this email and have already renewed, congratulations! Our President, James, has to give our insurance company a head count of how many members we have on the roster at the end of January. That count is how many people we pay to cover for the year. If we have more people wanting to join later that desire to go on our annual Willis Mountain field trip, but we don't have many people covered by insurance by end of January, then we will have to determine participants based on when they paid their dues.

Our rates have changed:

Single adult membership is still \$15 annually.

Two adult memberships and/or up to 6 dependents is \$25 annually.

Membership badges are new also. I shall be issuing the new ones to everybody, hopefully catching a few of you at our monthly meeting to save some time and stamps. When you receive the new one, you can trash the old ones.

If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Debbie Wade  
Membership Chair



## Your GMSL membership entitles you to:

- \* receive our monthly newsletters
- \* attend our monthly meetings
- \* participate in members-only GMSL fieldtrips to quarries, mines, & events related to gems & minerals
- \* purchase club t-shirts or hoodies
- \* discounts with several “rock” stores and vendors for current members with badges
- \* attend our club member’s only workshop each month
- \* a chance to win a \$500 annual scholarship

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### Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg Meeting Minutes

January , 2021 Meeting canceled because of weather

**New Business: Club Meeting moved to the 715 Moose Lodge Hall  
2307 Lakeside Drive  
Lynchburg, Virginia 24501**

#### **Executive Board Meeting**

Tuesday January 25, 2022 @ 6:00pm

#### **Members in attendance:**

James Tomlin, Holly Tomlin, Debbie Wade, Carl Pilat, Joan Moore, Steve Boylan, Thom Noble and Linda Noble. Steve Gordon attended via speaker phone

#### **Members not present:**

Eric Routon

The Executive Board:

- Decided to gracefully cut ties with Parks and Rec
- Voted 9-0 against doing an outdoor event in Amherst in March
- Voted 9-0 in favor of replacing the motor on the 16” saw
- Voted 9-0 in favor of purchasing new pumps for the sluice
- Voted 6-3 in favor of having the sluice at the July show as long as the Moose lodge approves it
- Agreed on table prices for our July show to be as follows: **For GMSL members-**\$20 for 1 table or \$30 for 2 tables with option for power for up to 4 tables for a fee of \$10. **For non GMSL members-** \$30 for 1 table or \$50 for 2 tables with option for power for up to 4 tables for a fee of \$10
- Agreed to have the pickers wheel at the July show
- Agreed to purchase the raffle specimen from Dave Callahan’s collection again this year
- Agreed to have Carl Pilat create a field trip survey for club members to get feedback
- Agreed to get more details on insurance for both south eastern and eastern federations and discuss before choosing which one we will go with
- Voted 9-0 in favor of changing the following items in the bylaws:
  - 1-Update the club dues to coincide with our new pricing
  - 2-Update the date and location of club meetings to coincide with our new day and location
  - 3-Remove our agreement with parks and rec from the bylaws

4-Update scholarship rules to say the only way to be entered into the drawing is by volunteering. 1 ticket per person, per day for a minimum 4 hours of work at club sanctioned events (shows and workshops when items are made for shows)

- Agreed to come up with a workshop schedule for creating specific items for shows
- Agreed to promote workshops in the newsletter
- Agreed to purchase signs to be used at shows
- Agreed to further discuss the idea of doing a yearly rockhound of the year award. The winner would be nominated and chosen by the board
- Agreed to purchase 1 table and more chairs for workshops
- Agreed that Steve Boylan would contact Thomas Hale to get speakers for meetings as suggested by James Tomlin
- Discussed possibly doing a craft night with gem trees for a meeting

**Meeting adjourned at:** 9:00pm

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## Igneous Rock Word Find

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

BASALT	GEOLOGY	OBSIDIAN
BRECCIA	GRANITE	PEGMATITE
DIORITE	IGNEOUS	PUMICE
ERUPTION	INTRUSIVE	ROCK
EXTRUSIVE	LAVA	SYENITE
GABBRO	MAGMA	VOLCANO

## [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>

### **Link to Mindat web page for Willis Mountain**

[Willis Mountain Mine, Sprouses Corner, Farmville Mining District, Buckingham Co., Virginia, USA \(mindat.org\)](http://www.mindat.org/willismountain)

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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**

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