



# March Newsletter

3/2023

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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 am happy we are going into spring a little faster this year, it will allow us pleasant weather for Field Trips. Speaking of field trips, this past trip to the Museum of Natural History in Martinsville accompanied by collecting at the Fairystone park was a great start to our year of outings. We have our next field trip this month collecting mainly Pyrite at Bargers quarry. If you would like to sign up and get more info please email me or reply to the email you will receive with the information on the trip.

Pyrite, also known as "fool's gold," is a mineral composed of iron sulfide. While it is not typically used for any practical purposes, it does have some benefits and uses. Some of these benefits include:

1. Jewelry: Pyrite has a metallic luster and a brassy color, which make it a popular material for jewelry. It is often used in earrings, necklaces, and bracelets.

2. Energy production: Pyrite is sometimes used as a source of sulfur in the production of sulfuric acid, which is used in a variety of industrial applications, including the production of fertilizers, dyes, and detergents.

3. Crystal healing: Some people believe that pyrite has healing properties and can help with physical and emotional well-being. It is often used in crystal healing practices to promote confidence, focus, and willpower.

4. Geological significance: Pyrite is an important mineral in geology and can provide valuable information about the conditions under which it formed. It is often found in sedimentary rocks and can indicate the presence of gold and other valuable minerals.

I look forward to seeing you out on our many adventures we have this year and I hope to share in stories, memories and friendship.

Your Fellow Rockhound,  
James Tomlin  
President GMSL

## 2023 Officers

### **PRESIDENT**

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

### **First Vice President**

Vacant

### **Second Vice President**

Vacant

**Secretary – Holly Tomlin**  
Fireeyez1981@yahoo.com

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

**Membership – Thom Noble**  
thom-noble@hughes.net

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

**Members At Large -**  
Eric Routon

**Youth Out Reach**

## Programs for 2023

### **March Meeting**

Still trying to confirm

### Note from the Editor

Hello All,

This will be your last email of the newsletter if you have not paid your 2023 club dues. Also any field trips you have to be a member prior to the date of the field trip as we have a max limit of people that can attend any field trip. So you can't just show up at a field trip and expect to join in if you are not a club member in good standings (paid up).

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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### Funny Side of Rocks

**What do you call a rock that never goes to school?**

A skipping stone!

**Why did the tectonic plates break up?**

It wasn't her fault, but there was just too much friction between them.

**Who is a geologist's favorite band?**

The Rolling Stones.

**Did you hear about the geologist who was reading a book about Helium?**

He just couldn't put it down.

**What do rocks eat?**

Pom-a-granites.

**What do you call an Irish gem that's a fake?**

A sham rock.

# Field Trips

## Club Field Trips

May 20 Mt Athos (sign-up at the meeting)  
June 17th KY (This is a 3 day trip, 2 nights) (sign-up is required)  
July 15th Beckly WV (plant fossil) (sign-up at the meeting)

Others are still coming in

## South Eastern Federation Field Trips (Dixie Mineral)

**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**

None at this time.

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## Membership Report

Hi Folks,

As of today, I have received less than half of club membership renewals that were due in January. I will be sending Expiration Notices to those of you who have not renewed your membership. At the end of February you will no longer receive the newsletter or email notices of club events and will no longer have access to the club Facebook page. Our meeting is open to the public so you can still attend those but our workshops and field trips are only open to club members in good standing.

Let's try to get your paperwork and payment in as soon as possible to avoid this.

Thank you to those who have renewed already.

Number of members to date is 131.

Thanks,  
Thom Noble  
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

As a reminder I will redo the mailing list in March to reflect current members. That means if you have not paid the 2023 dues by then you will be dropped from the emailed newsletter email and no longer get the newsletter. This is from the newsletter editor Steve Gordon.

## Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg Meeting Minutes

February 21 @ 7:00

**Attendance:** 34 Members 1 Guest

**Meeting Called to Order By:** James Tomlin

**On Time Drawing Winners:** Dale Weizenecker, Holly Tomlin, Kyrina Johnson, Ellissa Bowen, Shery Hughes, Jackie Weizenecker, John Haskins, Mary Foster, Steve Brogan, Linda Evans, Jeff Franklin, Susan Brogan, Lisa Franklin and Amy McGee.

**50/50 Winner:** \$7.50 was won and donated back to the club. (I was not able to get his name)

**Old Business:** We're excited about this Saturday's field trip to the Museum of Natural History in Martinsville. We hope everyone is able to make it out!

**New Business:** We cannot advertise field trip dates on our website anymore. From now on only the month will be listed in the newsletter, as it is posted on our website, and you may get details about the trip from any board member or at a club meeting.

Our July show will be Friday July 7th and Saturday July 8th. We have nailed down times and prices. You may get with Joan to start purchasing tables.

**Treasurers Report:** We started the month with \$12,884.00 and ended with \$13,174.00

**Membership:** 85 out of 183 members have renewed their memberships so far this year. If you still need to renew your membership, please do as soon as possible. We need an accurate count to obtain our liability insurance for the year. Also if you want to attend field trips, get special table pricing for our show, and receive our monthly newsletter...you must renew your membership.

**Program:** Steve Lenhart spoke about the Field trip to Kentucky in June.

Dave Callahan gave a special safety brief and brought specimens from each collecting site we hope to go to this year.

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**Executive Board Meeting  
Tuesday February 21, 2023 @ 6:15pm**

Members in attendance: Thom Noble, Linda Noble, Joan Moore, James Tomlin, Holly Tomlin and Steve Lenhart

Members not in attendance: Eric Routon

The Executive Board:

- Agreed to use the South Eastern Federation for our club liability insurance for the year.
- Agreed the GMSL will be members of both the South Eastern Federation and the Eastern Federation for the year.
- Agreed our July Show selling times will be Friday July 7th from 2-6 and Saturday July 8th from 10-5.
- Agreed our July show table prices for GMSL club members will be: \$30 for 1 table, \$25 for each additional table (up to 4 tables total) and \$10 for power.
- Agreed our July show table prices for nonmembers will be: \$50 for 1 table, \$45 for each additional table (up to 4 tables total) and \$10 for power.
- Agreed our July show will be free admission

Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm

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**Every Rock Tells a Story-Metamorphic Rock**

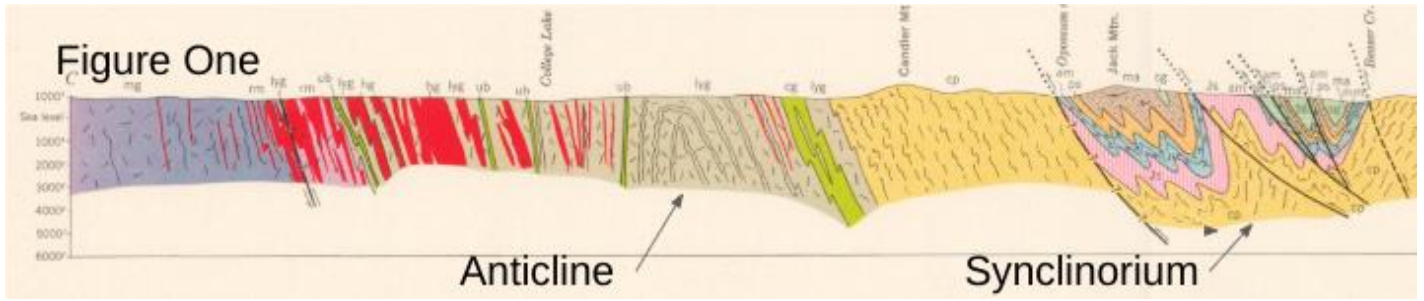
Submitted by Steve Boylan

The Lynchburg quadrangle shows several significant features of structural geology. So let's look at some structural geology.

On the surface of the earth there is a layering process. The youngest rock layers are on the top. The oldest rock layers are on the bottom. Forces push the rock layers into folds. The folds appear as curved bends in the rock layering. Two types of folds are synclines and anticlines. Synclines have the youngest rock layer in the middle of the bend. Synclines usually are concave side up. A synclinorium is a large geological formation bend with the youngest rock layer in the middle. The James River synclinorium appears in the Lynchburg quadrangle. Anticlines have the oldest rock layer in the middle of the bend. Anticlines are usually concave side down. An anticlinorium is a large geological formation bend with the oldest rock layer in the middle. The Catoctin-Blue Ridge anticlinorium appears in the Lynchburg quadrangle.

Figure one shows a cross section view from the map of the Lynchburg quadrangle. Figure Two shows a rock face at River-edge Park in Madison Heights, Virginia. Figure Three also shows a rock face from Bulletin 74. These may be the same rock faces and may be an anticline.

Try these test questions. Name the fold with the youngest rocks in the middle. Answer syncline. Name the fold with the oldest rocks in the middle. Answer anticline. Name two large structural geological features that appear in the Lynchburg quadrangle. Answer James River synclinorium and Catoctin-Blue Ridge anticlinorium.



1A. Part of Lynchburg anticline in Lynchburg formation on northeast side of James River opposite Lynchburg.

## **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/sTxMrh9\\_QI](https://youtu.be/sTxMrh9_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)

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**If you need to renew your club membership you can let me or Thom Noble 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)**

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

PO Box 11975, Lynchburg, VA 24506-1975

Membership Application



This form is also downloadable from our website [www.lynchburgrockclub.org](http://www.lynchburgrockclub.org)

I/We wish to apply for membership in The Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA, Inc. ("GMSL") and agree to abide by the Society's By-laws.

New membership Renewal **Check One**

New Membership  Renewal

If Renewal: Please check box above if any contact information has changed

Please PRINT all information and write names as you would like them to be shown on your membership badge.

**Applicant(s):** \_\_\_\_\_ Today's date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. / Ms. \_\_\_\_\_ [Primary **voting** Membership]

Spouse / Partner: \_\_\_\_\_ [Additional **voting** Membership]

Street Address (required): \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #1: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ #2 ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**We will email you our monthly GMSL Newsletters & Field Trip notices (we will not share your information with outsiders)**

**Minor Dependents:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Secondary Memberships, **non-voting**)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Fees:** \_\_\_\_\_ Covers through December 31st this year

SINGLE: 1 adult, 18 years & over \$15.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

OR

FAMILY: Up to 2 adults and minor dependents \$25.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment by check preferred! Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to "The Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA, Inc." or "GMSL" and mail completed application form and dues to: GMSL PO Box 11975, Lynchburg, VA 24506-1975, (or bring membership application & dues to our monthly meeting). Note: There is a limit of 2 primary "voting" memberships per family. **All membership dues must be renewed between January 1st thru 15th annually to continue with GMSL.** If you pay dues by check, allow us 2 – 4 weeks to cash your check, however, your new membership badge(s) should arrive by mail within 2 weeks of paying.