



April Newsletter

4/2023

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In This Issue

- [President's Meanderings](#)
- [Programs for the future](#)
- [Note from the Editor](#)
- [Field Trips](#)
- [Note from Membership Chairperson](#)
- [Meeting minutes](#)
- [Interesting Article Every Rock Tells a Story](#)
- [Other Links](#)

**Meeting at the
715 Moose Lodge Hall
2307 Lakeside Dr.
Lynchburg, VA 24501
3rd 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 2nd Saturday
of the month.**

President's Meanderings:

By James Tomlin

Hello Everyone,

I would like to start by saying we had an awesome time on the Bargers Quarry field trip. Weather that day was very nice after the chill left the air and it was a nice, bright day. Lots of people left that day with really nice pieces of pyrite and fluorite. It was wonderful seeing everyone out and I can't wait to see you all out again soon.

We will have our show coming up soon in July and we need to start planning. If you would like to help out we will have a sign-up sheet out at the meetings as well as you can message myself or someone else on the board. We can always use the help and you can still earn tickets for each day you help out towards the scholarship drawing at the end of the year.

I hope you all will have had a wonderful Easter and I will look forward to seeing you out.

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
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Membership – Thom Noble
thom-noble@hughes.net

Editor – Steve Gordon
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Members At Large -
Eric Routon

Youth Out Reach

Programs for 2023

Aprils Guest Speaker

This month's Speaker is Professor Mark Caddick with the Geosciences department at Virginia Tech University. Professor Mark Caddick's presentation on using minerals in metamorphic rocks to determine the conditions they reached is likely to delve into the various ways in which geoscientists study rocks to understand their formation and evolution. That sounds like an interesting topic!

Metamorphic rocks are rocks that have undergone transformation due to high heat and pressure, often deep within the Earth's crust or mantle. By studying the minerals in these rocks, scientists can infer the conditions under which they formed, such as temperature and pressure, and gain insight into the geological processes that have shaped the Earth over time.

Professor Caddick's presentation is likely to cover topics such as the types of minerals found in metamorphic rocks, how these minerals form and change under different conditions, and how scientists use these minerals to interpret the history of the rocks. He may also discuss the techniques used to study minerals, such as petrography, X-ray diffraction, and electron microscopy.

Overall, attendees can expect to learn about the fascinating world of metamorphic rocks and the insights they can provide into the Earth's geological history.

Note from the Editor

Hello All,

I hope all of you enjoyed the field trip to Barger's Quarry. Those that could not make it, we had a great time. The weather was perfect not too hot or too cold. The wind was blowing but we were down in the pit so it wasn't too bad. There were some great finds and good fellowship.

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

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.

Membership Report

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

I want to thank all of you for your patience and help over the last four months. We are now at 152 members making up 84 individual and family memberships.

I've learned a lot over the last four months and will be working on making the renewal process less painful for everyone next year. One thing that we are working on is getting an electronic application that can be filled out on line and submitted electronically. I believe that this will smooth the process tremendously.

One mistake I made was I under estimated the effort that was needed to get everyone renewed at the beginning of the year. When I previously managed the roster we had anniversary months which spread renewals over twelve months. I plan to start earlier next year. I will send out the email reminder the first of December that your membership is ending on December 31. At the first of January, I will mail out the expiration notice to those who have not responded to the email notice.

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

Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg Meeting Minutes

March 21 @ 7:00

Attendance: 47 Members

Meeting Called to Order by: James Tomlin

On Time Drawing Winners: Roger Linkenhoker, Joan Moore, Caroline, Caroline and Siglinde Allbeck

50/50 Winner: Linda Evans

Old Business: We went to Barger's Quarry this past Saturday. We found a lot of Pyrite and Calcite containing Flourite. Thank you Bernard Rivera for gathering trash from around the quarry. It speaks a lot for our clubs character and I'm sure the quarry appreciated it!

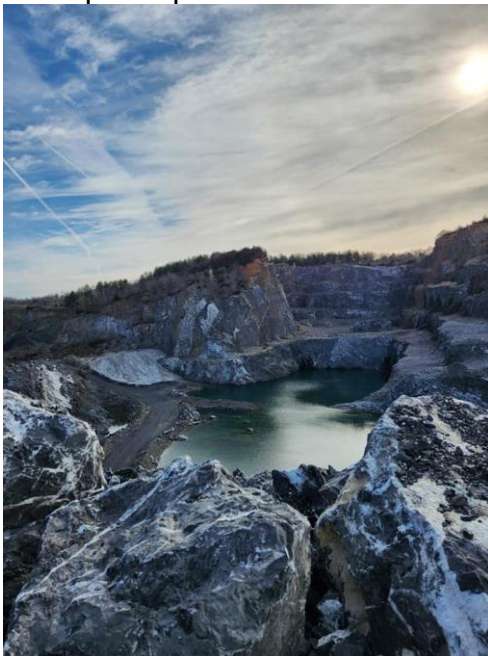
New Business: our next field trip is Saturday April 15, 2023 to Mill Point, West Virginia to search for fossils and coral.

Program: David Young of Stones & Bones gave a presentation on collecting in Virginia and surrounding areas.



Dave Young shows some of his collection.

A couple of pictures from our field trip to Barger Quarry



Executive Board Meeting

Tuesday March 21, 2023 @ 6:00pm

Members in Attendance:

James Tomlin, Holly Tomlin, Thom Noble, Linda Noble, Joan Moore, Steve Gordon and Kyrina Johnson

Members not present:

Eric Routon

The Executive Board:

- agreed to pay the fees to become an official 501(C) (3)
- agreed that James will contact the Eastern Federation to correct info on their website
- agree to look into utilizing outside organizations to help work our July show
- agree to reach out to a few potential speakers to fill out the year.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50

Every Rock Tells a Story

Lynchburg Formation

SJ Boylan

In Bulletin 74, year 1958, Brown identifies a Lynchburg formation as biotite quartz gneiss, mica schist, graphitic schist, and conglomeratic gneiss.

Biotite is a rock forming mineral with potassium, magnesium, iron, aluminum silicate in the mica group. Quartz is a widely distributed rock and a mineral with a chemical formula of silicon dioxide, SiO₂. Gneiss is a metamorphic rock. Mica is a rock and a mineral with sheet silicates. Silicates are made of silicon and oxygen and maybe other elements. Schist is a metamorphic rock. Graphitic indicates a rock containing some form of carbon. Conglomerate indicates a rock with rounded pebbles set in a matrix of sand or silt.

The Lynchburg Formation is in the Catoctin-Blue Ridge anticlinorium. Later publications identify a Lynchburg group subdivided into different formations. Figure one shows a parking lot in Lynchburg, VA. Figure two shows a rock formation viewed from the parking lot. Figure Three shows the Blackwater Creek Trail under the Bridge in Lynchburg. Figure Four shows rocks under the bridge parking lot in Lynchburg.

Try these test questions. Name two metamorphic rocks. Answer schist and gneiss. Name a rock forming mineral in the mica group. Answer biotite. Name the rock with rounded pebbles set in a matrix. Answer conglomerate. Name the geological structure that includes the Lynchburg Formation. Answer Catoctin-Blue Ridge anticlinorium.

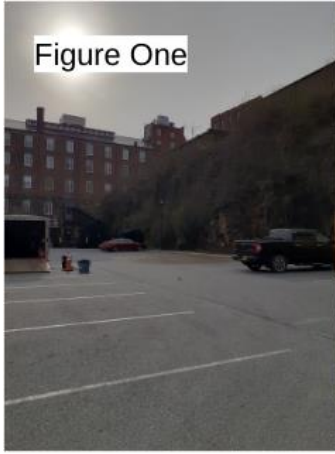


Figure One



Figure Two



Figure Three



Figure Four

Funny side of Rocks

What do hipsters think of carbon?

They liked it before it was coal.

Why did the hipster like the rock?

It was magma before it was cool.

Why isn't it safe for a rock to marry a piece of paper?

Because paper beats rock.

Why did the rock go to jail?

The quartz found him guilty.

What did the stone say when he ended up at the bottom of the hill?

That's how I roll.

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

A skipping stone!

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, 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/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)

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

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PO Box 11975, Lynchburg, VA 24506-1975

Membership Application



This form is also downloadable from our website 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

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.