



# April Newsletter

04/2024

Volume 2024, Number 4

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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 follows Lynchburg  
schools, if they are closed  
for weather then the  
meeting is canceled.

Workshop is on the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Saturday of the month,

## President's Meanderings:

By James Tomlin

Hello Everyone,

Spring is here! I am very grateful for the beginning of fair weather and bearable temperatures. We have a lot of exciting field trips coming up and to a few places we have not been to for quite a while. We have our trip to the Blue Ridge Quarry next month so make sure you are current on dues. Sign up will be at this month's meeting and our guest speaker, Josh Wilson, will be discussing what the quarry has to offer.

Our show this year will be August 9th and 10th this year. If you would like to be a vendor please ask for a club vendor application and get signed up. All details of the show will be on the application and should you have any questions please feel free to ask.

Take care and I will see you all soon,

Your Fellow Rockhound  
James Tomlin  
President GMSL

## Programs for the Future:

April : Will be a meet and teach. Josh Willson from Boxley will be speaking about the Blue Ridge Quarry.

May: TBA

contact the club president  
for location details.

#### 2024 Officers

##### **PRESIDENT**

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

##### **First Vice President**

**Steve Gordon**

##### **Second Vice President**

**James Tomlin**

##### **Secretary – Holly Tomlin**

**Fireeyez1981@yahoo.com**

##### **Treasurer – Joan Moore**

**jmoore64@msn.com**

##### **Membership – Thom Noble**

**(Carl Pilat, in training)**  
**thom-noble@hughes.net**

##### **Editor – Sena Magill**

**(434) 760-2143**  
**senamagill@gmail.com**

##### **Members At Large -**

**Ben Thompson**  
**Kyrina Johnson**  
**Youth Outreach**

## Note from the Editor:

Hello All,

I hope everyone is well and not suffering too much from the ever present pollen. I hope you are looking forward to the upcoming field trips as much as I am. I know James does a lot of work getting these together and making contact with people. Please remember that the field trips are for members only and do not send out the info to friends etc. Also it is very important to make sure you come to the trips with the appropriate equipment and clothing and are respectful of the sites. Most of the trips are on private land and we can easily lose the privilege of being invited to hunt there if we do not leave a good impression. So it is up to all of us as members to make sure to remind each other that we do need to follow whatever rules the sites give us, sometimes that is hard hats and steel toed shoes or other equipment, other times it is simply cleaning up after ourselves and not leaving the designated areas. Because our members are covered by the clubs insurance it means that owners, especially quarrys, feel more comfortable allowing us to attend. If you know someone who would like to attend a trip encourage them to join the club. I know I am very excited for our field trip this month and hope to see you there.

If you have any questions or suggestions for the newsletter or programming please feel free to contact me at [Senamagill@gmail.com](mailto:Senamagill@gmail.com).

Have a great day,

Sena

## Note from the Member at Large Youth Programming:

There are no new updates from the member at large youth programming. However as a reminder Kyrina could use assistance in the coming year with educational and youth focused programming. Please get in touch with Kyrina if you would like to take part in getting the next generation of rockhounds engaged.

## GSML Membership Report

Hi Folks,

We are still in the membership renewal process. We have picked up 3 new memberships and a bunch of renewals since last month. Of the 131 total memberships on the roster, we still have 46 memberships that have not been renewed. The present number of memberships in good standing is 85.

As I stated in last month's newsletter "At the end of March, any memberships not renewed will be deleted from the roster." I mailed out 46 expiration notices on April 4, 2024. Those members have been removed from the roster pending receipt of new applications and payments.

If you don't want to miss out on the activities, please, get your paperwork and payments in to me as soon as possible. We have numerous field trip opportunities coming up this year and you must be a member in good standing two weeks prior to the field trip scheduled date.

Thanks,  
Thom Noble  
Membership Chair

Here are a few things that being a member gives you:

- \* receive our monthly newsletters
- \* attend our monthly meetings
- \* participate in members-only GSML field trips 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.

## GSML Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2024

**Attendance:** 32 Members and 5 Guests

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

**On Time Drawing Winners:** Nona Haskins, Dave Callahan, Carl Pilat , Justin Mayo, Steve Boylan, Debbie Thompson, Amber Dawson, Jeff Franklin, Laettner Doss.

**50/50 Winner:** Ben Thompson won and donated it back to the club.

**New Business:** Welcome David Kingery as new Member at Large

James announced the upcoming Fieldtrips for April and May. Sign up sheet available for all current club members.

Next Month's program will be a presentation from Josh Wilson from Boxley Quarry

Dave Callahan will give a safety brief of requirements of club member interested in attending fieldtrips.

The Lynchburg Gem and Mineral Show is still scheduled for July 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> for any club members wishing to be Vendors or Volunteers to help with show.

Joan Moore gave Treasury Report- Last month's balance \$14,213 Purchases of new lights, stamps, supplies brings current balance is \$13,735.

Thom Noble gave the Membership Report: Only 50 per cent of members have renewed. A letter of expiration notice will be going out at the end of the month. Carl Pilat is in training to take over the duties of membership chair.

Tonight Program: Steve Gordon presented Part 2 of Rock and Mineral Identification. Presentation included Mindat.Org, Books and samples of rocks from his collection.

Thanks to Nancy and Rodger Linkenhoker for helping with greeting, sign in and selling of 50/50 tickets tonight.

Minutes submitted by Linda Noble  
Substitute for Holly Tomlin

**Program:** Steve Gordon held a second part of Rock Identification Workshop.



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## GSML Club & Affiliated Clubs Field Trips

### Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg Field Trips

Due to the need to make sure only members who are in good standing with club dues are attending field trips details will not be in the newsletter. Please check your email as trips are in the works already.

April Trip to American Rutile details will be in club member emails.

May Trip to Blue Ridge Quarry details will be in club emails.

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

**NOTE:** DMC field trips will continue to be planned and scheduled, but may be canceled 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**

**April: DMC is through Catawba Valley Gem and Mineral Club trip to Mason's Ruby and Sapphire Mine. Please be sure to register through the email you received as this trip has limited capacity.**

**May: DMC is through: Northeast Georgia Mineral Society (Clarkesville, GA)**

If you did not get the email let me know and I will send it to you.

## Every Rock Tells a Tectonic Story- April Fools Virginia

By: SJBoylan

Went up 29 and turned left where the big tree used to be. Ran into our good friends Jim Bob and John Boy. Not their real names. You old timers know these buds from a long time back. Had some good barbeque and cold beer. After the dogs settled down I pointed to a rock cliff. Look at that.

So I asked them “ How was Virginia formed? Geologically speaking”

Jim Bob and John Boy, not their real names, said “Well let me tell you, Virginia used to be the Himalayan mountains, even higher. And then the ice age came with a huge glacier. This huge glacier plowed the material from the Himalayan mountains further south to create Florida. We know that for a fact. And then the glacier slipped sideways to push apart the continent of Rodinia and the continent of Pangia. Global warming melted the glacier. The melt water became the Atlantic ocean. You have to believe the science. We were left with the Appalachian mountains. If you know where to look you can still see the drag lines from the glacier.”

“Is that true? How do you know that?”

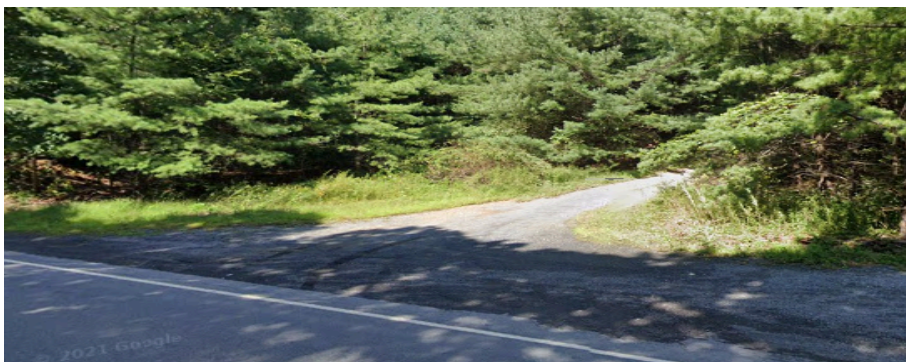
“Sure is true and everybody knows it. Everybody. People are saying. We could do a calculation. But we know what were doing. The internet. Go look on the internet. It’s all on the internet.”

“You can’t argue with that logic. Heard someone say once, a lie is as good as the truth if you can get someone to believe it.”

That was the last time I saw our good friends Jim Bob and John Boy. Not their real names. But I hope they are doing well and hope to see them soon again. Maybe next time they can explain nuclear reactors or moon landings or world wide epidemics or something else like that.

Figure one shows an interesting place.

Figure One - Highway 501 Blue Ridge Mountain Access Road





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

### **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/>

### **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 \(mindat.org\)](#)

### **Mineral Collecting in Virginia**

<https://www.energy.virginia.gov/geology/documents/Brochures/MINERALCOLLECTING.pdf>

## **What to do with my Rocks now**

### **Micromounts**

<https://www.baltimoremineralsociety.org/what-is-micromounting.html>

### **William Holland Lapidary School 2024 class catalog**

<https://79580759.flowpaper.com/CatalogFinalDec3/#page=1>

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**If you need to renew your club membership you can let Thom Noble know and he can email you the form. You can make checks out to GMSL or pay online (links at bottom of web site <https://www.lynchburgrockclub.org> ).**

**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)**

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 15<sup>th</sup> 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.