



Gem & Mineral Journal



The Official Publication of The Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA Inc.

April 2007

Volume 16 Issue 4

Presidents Message:

Hello To All Members,

What a great turnout for our March Meeting. There were over 60 in attendance with 13 of those going to the Rock Raiders meeting. We all once again enjoyed the Flint Knapping program by Errett Callahan on a tape from his original presentation from October 2005. I for one have enjoyed trying my hand at flint knapping and have learned there are several in our club doing the same. Please bring some of your finished work to a meeting so all may enjoy it.

Several of our club members are going back to collect some Travertine on Saturday April the 7th, for the club to make Rock Candles to sell at the upcoming festivals. We should have some sign up sheets at the April meeting for workshop volunteers for making rock candles as well as working on the new planned Gem Sluices. As I write this, a metal working shop has ordered the aluminum material for the basic parts of the sluices and accessories. I hope they will have them ready for assembly by April 7th. I have planned to take the parts to another shop to

have them welded for a finished product. We got a great deal on the material, and the labor will be very minimal. Dave Callahan has been very busy getting water pumps and experimenting with the plumbing fixtures to determine how much water flow will be needed to give the sluices the proper effect. A big thanks to you Dave for the engineering and plan drawings for the whole project. Keep up the good work.

There was a good turnout for the March club workshop. Some people made their own Gem Trees, with instructions from Natalie Darling, who also took the time to buy and list the materials for the projects. Some worked on honing their skills at cabochon making. Dave Woolley gave some of us basic info on faceting, and the different functions & use of the machine parts. Our club is very fortunate to have such talented people that are willing to share their knowledge with anyone willing to try something new. Thanks guys.

Nell McIntyre is home doing well, we hope to see her & Don at the April meeting.

Continued on page 13

From the First VP:

Did you know that sphalerite, sometime called zinc blend, is a major ore for zinc. Sphalerite has the chemical formula of ZnS and is part of space group F bar 43m in the isometric crystal system. Sphalerite occasionally fluoresces orange. It makes a good rock to bring on long travels. And now you know.

I first heard about The Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg by reading the Lynchburg News & Advance. In the Tuesday section was an invitation to see a presentation about fluorescent minerals. So I came to the meeting. What a great presentation! Geologist Dave Woolley showed a glowing collection

of fluorescent rocks and explained where they came from. Now you have the opportunity to re-experience the glow. April's meeting will feature a presentation about fluorescent rocks by Dave. Come prepared to be dazzled.

Hurry! Get your ugly rock in the ugly rock contest. Entries are only \$1.00. Votes are free. And the winner will split the pot with the club.



*Sphalerite on Johansonite;
Iron Cap Mine, AZ*

au revoir!
SteveB

www.gc.maricopa.edu/earthsci/imagearchive/spahlerite.html

2007 ELECTED OFFICERS

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JMHaskins1@netzero.net

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JoAnn Mason &
Ralph Torning

COMMITTEE**CHAIR PERSONS:**

Field Trips- David Callahan
Hospitality- Nell McIntyre
News Articles- Natalie Darling
Silent Auction- Warren Darling
Special Events- Dee Tinsley
Swap for Rocks- Frank Midkiff &
Warren Darling
Website- Adelaide Lee
Workshops- Dave Woolley
FRA Adult Liaison- Shannon
Bondurant

March Meeting Minutes

Meeting: 7:00 PM, Wednesday,
March 21st

Attendance: 60, including 5
guests.

Hospitality: Provided this
month by Dee Tinsley, Jean
Midkiff, Jill Skinner, Dorothy
Rivera and Lynn Powers.
President John Haskins
announced that Jo Ann & Fred
Mason were en-route to West
Virginia as Jo Ann's Mother had
passed away. He also announced
that the Grandson of Bob &
Nancy Wood was killed in an
automobile accident this past
week. Our sincere sympathy goes
out to both families. Cards have
been sent to both families from
our club.

Old Business: Door Prize
Drawings will CHANGE. Please
note: beginning next month all
door prizes will be given at the
beginning of the meeting. It will
be called the "on time drawing".
If you are late, "you lose out".
At the Exec. Board meeting it
was discussed that the food
(refreshments) has gotten out of
hand. If we wish to continue, we
will need many people signing up
each month to bring food the
next month. There was a sheet
sent around and many folks
signed up.

John Haskins announced we
would be making a field trip the
first Saturday in April, which will

be April 7th (Easter Weekend)
to Harrisonburg for Travertine.
This will be to collect both for
yourself and the Club for Rock
Candles.

We needed a greeter for our
April Meeting and Diane
Capobianco volunteered.

The Ugly Rock contest is back!
Also, don't forget the silent
auction every month.

First Vice President: Steve
Boylan announced the program
would be a video of Dave
Callahan's brother
demonstrating how to do
Obsidian and Flint knapping.

Second Vice President:
Dave Callahan reported field
trips as follows: Saturday March
24, Morefield Mine; April 20,
21, and 22 Kentucky Geode
adventure; April 28th Glendon
NC Pyrite Collecting; **May 26th**
is our DMG field trip.

Also announced was that
Sunday April 15th we have been
invited to go to Rockville MD
with the club there on a field
trip to Hunting Hills. The
quarry will be open 9AM to
2PM. If you are interested
contact Dave ASAP.

Treasurer: Franklin Midkiff
reported a balance of \$5,402.18
with no outstanding bills this
month.

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The purpose of the Gem &
Mineral Society of Lynchburg,
VA, INC. is to promote
education in The Earth
Sciences including: Mineralogy,
Geology, Gemology,
Paleontology, and
Crystallography

The Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg VA, Inc.
Meets on the third Wednesday of each month,
From 7:00pm- 9:00pm
In the auditorium of the Parks and Recreation Building
301 Grove St. Lynchburg, VA 24501
Public is invited, Please join us!

March Program

The March program featured a video of flint



Stages of Knife Manufacture

knapping by Dr. Errett Callahan. The original program was held in September 2005, and Don McIntyre conducted videotaping. Dave Woolley, Don and Nell McIntyre edited the video and added music to produce a finished product that could be enjoyed by club members for years to come. Brochures were also available as were flint knapping kits and instruction cards.

(Photographs submitted by Dave Callahan, 9/05)



Dr Callahan works on a piece of obsidian using a sandstone hammer.

Gem Tree Workshop Class at Woolley's Workshop, Wednesday, March 28th, 2007 from 7-9PM

Submitted by Zachary, Sheryl, and Claude McKinney

On March the 28th, we had the pleasure to attend our first Woolley's Workshop. We have been members of the club for around a year, but due to living almost 2 hours away, we cannot always attend meetings and other club activities like we would like to.

We live in a very rural area, and basically whatever Zachary has wanted to learn, he has had to figure out on his own. We had wanted to learn how to make Gem Trees. We had been to our local Library, searched the internet, and looked in craft stores, but had not come up with anything. Zachary had tried on his own, and was on the right track, but still needed help. When we got the last newsletter and saw that the club was going to offer a Gem Tree Class we were very excited. My dear husband, whose hobby is electronics, gave up going to a Ham Radio Convention (that he had been looking forward to attending for the last year,) so Zachary and I could attend the Gem Tree Class. The class was great. Natalie Darling taught the class, and is a great teacher. We enjoyed seeing the other club members and learning how to make Gem Trees. Zachary has been making them ever since. He says he is going to make a whole forest. Mr. Woolley also helped Zachary identify some mineral specimens. Thank you Mr. Woolley for helping Zachary and for opening your home to us. Thank you Natalie for taking your time to teach the class, and thank you LGMS for offering the class.

We would like to encourage all the club members to take advantage of the classes offered. It was well worth our four hour round trip to learn how to make Gem Trees. We now have a new craft that we can enjoy for many years to come.

Thank You!

The McKinnev's

Woolley's workshop- Wednesday April 25th, 2007

Wire wrapping will be the class for this month's workshop. If you are interested in learning or just desire a refresher, please join us for this introduction to wire wrapping. We do need a head count before hand in order to have enough materials, tools and manageable instructor/ student ratio, **space is limited** so **PLEASE RSVP. (Natalie~ 941-1899).**

You may bring a stone or cabochon of your own or we have a limited selection that you may wish to purchase from. Each class participant will also be charged for wire used, at approximately \$1.50 per foot. An average stone requires somewhere between \$7-\$10 in wire cost. (You will be purchasing from club supply.)

As always, there will be lapidary, microscopy, library materials, and great company. Please join us!

Field Trip Report

Article and photographs Submitted by
Dave Callahan, Field Trip

Combined Field Trip Morefield Mine March 24th, 2006

What a trip! The weather was just perfect and the turnout was immense. The best that I could count was 35 members from Lynchburg and Roanoke. In addition there were another 75 to 100 others from the general public that attended the opening day for the 2007 season.

Seven of us went on the underground tour hosted by mine owner, Sam Dunaway. He did a fantastic job as tour guide and spent a lot of time showing and explaining the many mineral occurrences and fault zones. I have been underground many times here and each time I learn new things and see new and exciting minerals. This is truly a memorable experience and one that every rockhound should see while these tours are available. The mine is open to the general public Tuesday thru Saturday. Call the mine at 804-561-3399 for details.



A group of members prepare for the underground tour.



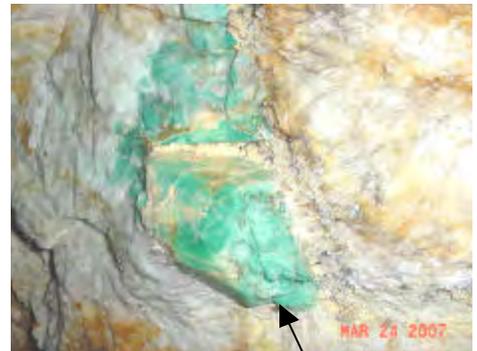
Inside the Morefield Mine Gift Shop Sharon and Sam assist customers.

Many beautiful minerals were collected. John and Nona Haskins found a rare specimen containing a very large one-inch Tantalite crystal. They also found several large nice water clear Topaz crystal fragments. Nona also found a small pencil size gemmy Beryl crystal. Now that's just too much good luck for any rockhound family!

The Morefield Mine is always a favorite family field trip and we are privileged to have such a productive site so close by. Be sure to visit there soon, you won't be sorry.



Sam and one of the underground tourists examine the rock wall.



The beautiful green amazonite the mine is so famous for.

Sam demonstrates the M-65 self-rescuer that must be worn underground.



Up Coming Field Trips

April 20 to 22, 2007 Second Annual Kentucky Geode Adventure

So far, the Lynchburg Club has nine families and individuals signed up for this trip. Since this is private land on which we will be collecting, we will not publish details on the Internet in respect for the privacy of the landowner. If you are interested in attending, you must contact either Royce or I for details and get on the sign-up sheet. Do not just show up without first notifying us first. If you have signed up and can't make the trip, be sure to let us know so we do not have to initiate a state wide State Police search for you.

We will drive down on our own and be responsible for our own Camping or Motel reservations. There are many places around, as an Internet search will reveal. We will meet in the Stanford, KY (south of Lexington, KY) Wal-Mart parking lot on US 27, just a couple of blocks north of US 150 by the Gas pumps, Saturday morning April 21, 2007, DEPARTING no later than 8AM rain or shine so dress accordingly. There is a strong possibility that it will be cold and wet at some point during that weekend. Remember that April showers bring beautiful May flowers! I will have the maps and information about the collecting sites available at the meeting site.

We will have a great time and you will be able to bring as many quartz geodes as you can carry. They come in all sizes and there are plentiful. I brought back a 16 incher, as that was as big as I could carry. We will be in the creek and on the bank so bring rubber boots or waders. Also a crack hammer, chisel, safety glasses, gloves, collecting bags or buckets, wrapping paper, digging tools for exploring the banks and ground beside the creek. Depending on the weather, this could be a creek or a raging river. We will have to carry our finds several hundred yards back to our

parking area. The ground will probably be too soft to drive any closer to the creek. There are as many nodules (solid) as geodes (hollow) so we suggest that you at least crack them open at the creek to be sure that's the one you want to tote home. We will have a full day collecting at the creek so bring plenty of food and drink. This is a remote area and any food or restroom facilities are perhaps 7 miles away.

Please contact us for additional information and sign-up.

David Callahan, Field Trip Leader, Lynchburg Club, (Home) 540-297-1853 (cell) 540-874-5201 (note---- Cell phones may not well work in this area of KY.) dbc11@aol.com

Royce Wickham, Field Trip Leader, Roanoke Club, 540-427-1424 rklandsc@rev.net

For further information on field trips, contact David Callahan,
540-297-1853
Email dbc11@aol.com

Additional Field Trips Open to Club Members

April 28 Glendon, NC.

If you are interested in collecting some Giant Pyrite crystals- contact Dave Callahan for details.

Graves Mountain "Rock Swap and Dig"

8 am to 6 pm, Friday, April 27, 2007

8 am to 6 pm, Saturday, April 28, 2007

8 am to 6 pm, Sunday, April 29, 2007

Contact Clarence Norman Jr. -
706.359.3862 (his business) or
706.359.2381 (his home)

Or log on to

<http://www.gamineral.org/commercial-gravesmountain.htm>

This is a great collecting adventure.

~Worth the trip~

April 28th, 2007

STERLING HILL SUPER DIG

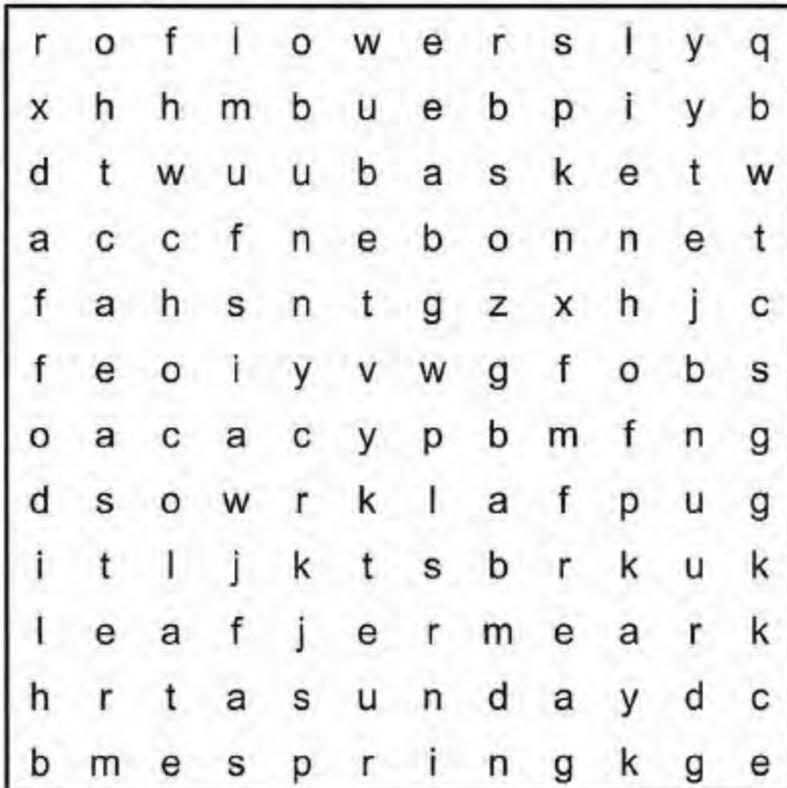
Fluorescent mineral collecting at it's finest! Both day and night digs planned. There will also be mine & museum tours, as well as a Gem and Mineral Show.

Contact Dave Woolley (he is going) or trip master Jeff Winkler 973-835-2582 or visit <http://www.uvworld.org/>
Another one that's worth the drive!



Rock Raiders

Easter Word Search



Mission Statement
 Future Rockhounds of America is a nationwide nonprofit program within the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies that develops and delivers quality youth activities in the earth sciences and lapidary arts in a fun, family environment. Our underlying goals are to foster science literacy and arts education through structured activities that are engaging and challenging and by which kids- and the adults who mentor them- learn while having fun.

easter sunday bunny egg

basket bonnet spring chicks

parade hunt flowers daffodil

chocolate



Junior, Mommy would like to talk to you about your rock collection.

by Erston Barnhart
 via Fly Grader 3/94



www.ActivityVillage.co.uk

Petrified Wood from Franklin, New Jersey

Article and photographs submitted by Dave Woolley, CPG; woolley.dave@gmail.com

It is not often that amateur mineral collectors can hope to make an addition to the elegant scientific studies completed at the zinc mines of Franklin, New Jersey. This example is more of an oddity rather than a formality. During the 2006 Trotter Dig, Frank and Jean Midkiff and I had an opportunity to collect at the microcline pegmatite that overlooks the Buckwheat Open Cut from the south end of the Trotter Dump. This site is southeast of the parallel but long gone Double Rock Pegmatite that existed within the West Limb. (Figure #1, Page 16, Geology of the Double Rock Pegmatite from the Buckwheat Open Cut, Volkert, Zartman, & Moore, The Picking Table Vol. 46 – Spring/Fall 2005) The site is above the southwest end of the now mined out Franklin ore body syncline.

I noticed a white to light gray microcrystalline carbonate flowstone that followed and filled joints within the northwest side of the pegmatite. These previously open joints were randomly oriented but followed steep dip angles into the pegmatite; some flowstone is now underneath an overhang where pegmatite has fallen away. Water in these joints, rich in mobilized calcium carbonate, flowed from surrounding and overlying Franklin Marble proving the flowstone was in place no later than the removal of the confining Franklin Marble. The flowstone might be related to just before the marble quarrying around the pegmatite intrusion, or simply be detritus trapped from an earlier time.

The samples recovered also contain loose, very fine-grained sand that includes abundant willemite that overpowers the light bluish or purplish gray fluorescence of the flowstone. The flowstone phosphoresces a slightly creamy gray for a few seconds. A few weak red fluorescing calcite fragments and franklinite fragments are also recognized in the sand under microscopic examination. This sand washes free of the flowstone. The sand clearly is a secondary accumulation and dates more recently than the deposition of the flowstone. A few particles of "limonite" are encapsulated in one specimen. In other samples flowstone casts or encapsulates wood fragments. The wood's growth rings are the most prominent feature of the casts. Unique to one of these specimens are several shards of decayed wood fiber. The surviving wood fibers may have been protected from total decay by the encapsulation of the flowstone until I broke the specimen free of the pegmatite.

By American definition a trace of life found in rock has to be older than about 10,000 years to be considered a "fossil". These casts therefore may not qualify as "fossils" but they clearly are petrified. The few wood fibers that can be seen in the best specimen suggest that carbon 14 dating is possible.

A similar occurrence of petrified roots has been reported from Sterling Hill preserved in secondary copper minerals above the Passaic and Nobel Pits. (Personal communication, Earl Verbeek, April 2006).

Specimen #1: End view of a shard of decayed wood encapsulated in travertine.

Note the slight upwards curve of the growth rings

In places travertine has covered individual strands of wood fiber as tiny tubes.



Specimen #2: Side view of a shard of decayed wood encapsulated in travertine.

Individual strands of wood fiber have been exposed where travertine has broken free.

Wood fibers previously trapped in travertine.



Announcement for May 16th, 2007 Meeting

Submitted by program chairman Steve Boylan



Gem Stones and Jewelry

Invited presentation by Phillip Bosen
Fink's Jewelers, Thomas Jefferson Crossings,
Forest, Virginia

When most jewelers take a vacation, it usually involves relaxing in the sun. But then there's Phillip Bosen of Fink's Jewelers. You're more likely to find him scaling Mount St. Helen's. "It took us three full days to get to the summit and back," said Bosen, an avid backpacker and woodsman. "What a fantastic experience!"

Bosen brings this sort of passion to his position as manager of Fink's Lynchburg, Virginia store. In a relatively short time span, he has established himself as one of the top managers, salesmen and trainers in the 15-store company. His industry credentials are a testament to his commitment; Bosen is a GIA Graduate Gemologist and an AGS Certified Gemologist Appraiser. But success, according to Bosen, comes down to the simple basics. "Know your product, your market and your customer.

Lynchburg is a family-first kind of town. We pride ourselves in developing and nurturing personal relationships. It's not enough just to recognize a familiar face. We want to know their children's names, their hobbies, where they like to travel, what community organizations they belong to...ultimately, we want our clients to be our friends." The entire staff takes pride in its commitment to civic involvement and supporting local education and arts initiatives.

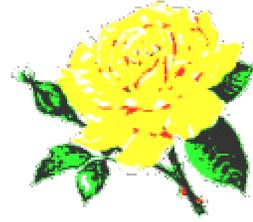
The philosophy has paid off. In fact, Fink's will close its 27-year-old mall location and open a freestanding store in early 2007 that will become one of the finest luxury jewelry destinations in Central Virginia. "Our customers have grown to expect the finest brands, products and service that we can provide. We're fortunate to get the opportunity to take our business to the next level."

A native of Roanoke, Virginia, Bosen helped out in his family's small jewelry shop as a teenager by sweeping sidewalks. Eventually, he worked his way up to selling diamonds. He met his wife of 15 years, Heather, as students at Brigham Young University. They married and started a family of five children, ages 5 to 13.

As for his next nature excursion, Bosen isn't sure. "I would love to hike The White Mountains in New Hampshire, if my wife will let me."



SUNSHINE NEWS



The club would like to extend deepest sympathy to JoAnn and Fred Mason, on the loss of JoAnn's mother, and also to Bob and Nancy Woods on the loss of their grandson Kody. Please keep these folks in your thoughts and prayers.

Nell McIntyre has made a complete recovery after spending several days in the hospital following last month's meeting.

There was no executive board meeting this month. The board meeting for next month will be held on Wednesday May 2, 7:00 PM at the Darlings home.

Important Web Sites: Lynchburg Gem and Mineral Society: www.lynchburgrockclub.org
The SFMS Newsletter, the Eastern Federation Newsletter, and the AFMS Newsletter are available for all members to read on line at the American and Southeast Federation Websites: www.amfed.org/sfms, www.amfed.org and www.amfed.org/efms

Schedule of Events

April 20th-22nd- Treasures of the Earth Gem Show, Charlottesville, VA. Details at www.toteshows.com

April 27th-29th- Graves Mtn. Rock Swap and Dig. This field trip is open to members of associated clubs of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies. For more information, contact Jr. Norman at 706-359-3862 or visit the web site <http://www.gaminal.org/commercial-gravesmountain.htm>

April 28th and 29th- Annual Open house at the Sterling Hill and Buckwheat Mines in Franklin, NJ for collecting fluorescent minerals. Information at: <http://www.uvworld.org/>

June 9th- Region IV Swap and Picnic at Lake Anna State Park. See next page for details.

June 29th-July 1st- Treasures of the Earth Show Waynesboro, VA www.toteshows.com

April 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Meeting 7PM	19	20	21
22	23	24 7PM	25 Woolley's Workshop	26	27	28
29	30					

Programs for the coming months

April Meeting Program will be:
Fluorescent Minerals by Club Members

May Meeting Program:
Gem Stones and Jewelry,
Invited presentation by Phillip Bosen
Fink's Jewelers,
Thomas Jefferson Crossings
Forest, Virginia



June Meeting Program
Radon Remediation and Instrument Testing
by Dale Phelps, Radon Free DP Enterprises,
(www.radonfree.net)

You are invited to our 2nd Annual Spring Show.
This show is fun for the whole family! Bring the kids!

2nd Annual Charlottesville Spring

Bead, Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show

April 20 - 22, 2007

Friday & Saturday 10:00AM - 6:00PM

Sunday 11:00AM - 5:00PM

Our host is the Charlottesville National Guard Armory located at 1640 Avon Street Ext. in Charlottesville, VA (I-64 Exit 121 South). Follow the yellow signs. There will be many of the finest bead, pearl, fossil, mineral, gem, and jewelry merchants in the USA at our show! Sponsored by the Monticello National Guard Family Support Group. Great food available by the Family Support Group.

Custom designed work & repairs while you wait

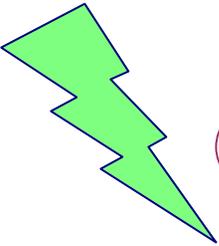
Adult Admission \$3.00 Ticket good all 3 days

Children under age 16 Free - Free Parking

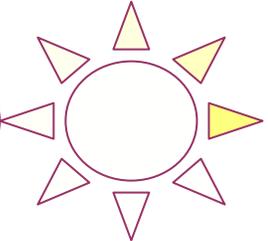
Hourly Door Prizes! & A Grand Door Prize

Jan 29-July 1 - Waynesboro, VA - William Perry Elementary School - 840 King Avenue

Oct. 28-29 - Farmington, VA - Fitzhugh County Fairgrounds - 4800 S. Valley Pike



The Program for the April meeting will feature
Lynchburg Gem and Mineral Society Members
presenting **Fluorescent Minerals**. Come out and
enjoy the brightest show on earth- **Wednesday**
April 18th 2007.



Refreshment Sign up list for the April 18th 2007 Meeting

2-Liter Drinks:

Colas: Siglinde Allbeck
Decaf: Cindy Mitchell
Diet: **Sue Gaeta**

Veggie Tray:

Steve Boylan

Fruit:

Diane Capobianco
Jack Curtin

Meats:

Cold cuts: Herman Williams
Wieners: Natalie Darling

Cheese:

Sliced: Kim N.
Cubed: Melissa Markham
Dip: Loretta Doty

Deserts:

Cookies: Dorothy and
Bernard Rivera
Cake: Nell McIntyre
Cupcakes: Natalie Darling

Crackers:

Loretta Doty

Chips:

Natalie Darling

Other:

Suzanne
Shannon Bondurant
Carne Keehan

If you did not sign up and would like
to bring something, please use this
list as your guide.

**Thanks for your continued
support!**

ANNUAL EFMLS REGION IV SWAP & PICNIC

Saturday, June 9, 2006 – from 9AM to 3PM
Lake Anna State Park, Virginia – Shelter #1

Highlights: Material Swapping, renowned Region IV Treasure Box,
and our outstanding Picnic Pot Luck Lunch.

At **9:00 AM**, we start swapping and socializing. Much of the
swapping is done early in the day so come early and swap the
materials you have tons of. BUT don't forget there is NO selling
allowed in the park.

At **12:00 noon**, we will be grilling the famous
Region IV hot dogs. Please bring your own world
famous dish to share.



At **1:30 PM**, a fun auction of the weird, wild,
funny, odd, and unusual stuff you have
accumulated. PLEASE donate items for the auction.
Should be at least somewhat hobby related.

Door prizes: Bring one with you because everyone loves to win!
The renowned **Region IV Treasure Box** will be open all day.
Bring items that you have a ton of or no longer want. Hobby
related, of course. Remember one rockhounds junk is another
rockhounds treasure. Please label your material for the Treasure
Box.

Directions: I-95 to exit #118 Thornburg; West on Rte 606 to Rte
208; turn Left onto Rte 208; Continue to Rte 601 and turn Right
onto Rte 601 (Turn is just past Lake Anna Marine Supplies &
Hardware); Continue on Rte 601 then turn Left into Park; Follow
park road to lake, shelter is around to the Left past the park
facilities.

Please email me or call me if you have questions.

Bill Gilbert, EFMLS Region IV Vice President

Billis4rox@comcast.net 804-541-8520



Up Coming Field Trips May 26th, 2007 Our DMC Event



**The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc
The Friendly Federation - Founded in 1976 to serve.**

**DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee
An Official Field Trip of The Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg, Virginia Inc. (HOST)**

**7:30 AM to 5:30 PM (EDT)
Saturday, May 26, 2007**

**Boxley Materials Company, Mount Athos Plant
Lynchburg, Virginia**

WHERE: Boxley Materials Company, Mount Athos quarry near Lynchburg, Virginia. Meet at the quarry office parking lot between 7:30 and 8:30 am (do not be late) Club members will show you where to park and have the forms to sign. All participants, regardless of age, will be required to wear hard hats, safety glasses, steel toe or good strong boots and long pants. Upon arrival you will be required to sign a waiver of liability and receive Hazard Training. There is a safety orientation at 8:45 and if you miss it, you may not be allowed into the quarry. Everyone will need to sign a release and receive information on boundaries and safety in the collecting area. Stay 50 feet away from high walls and be cautious as to footing at all times.

WHEN: Saturday, May 26, 2007

TIME: 7:30 am to 5:30 pm (EDT). Assembly 7:30 to 8:30 am, Orientation 8:45 am, Enter quarry 9:00 am. We must to clear the quarry by 6:00 pm

COLLECTING: Some of the minerals we have collected in the past are white and pink Calcite, pink Marble, Feldspar, Quartz, Ilmenite, Epidote, Pyrite, Actinolite, Chlorite, Muscovite, Magnetite, Hematite, Limonite, Rutile, Manganite, Cuprite, Chalcopyrite, Bornite, Malachite, Sphene, Apatite and Stilbite. Also reported to occur are Byssolite, Tremolite, Chrysocolla, Heulandite and Azurite. Remember that the availability of these minerals depends on where they are working in the quarry at the time of the field trip and that some of the occurrences are very small. We will have a large supply of material on the quarry floor from a recent shot, away from the high walls in a safe area.

LOCATION: Lynchburg, Virginia is centrally located in the State. We are not served directly by any Interstate but US Routes 29, 460 and 501 all connect here. I-81 traffic from the South and North can connect with US 460 at exit 150 (Cloverdale) and use Alternate SR 220 to connect with US 460 East to Bedford and Lynchburg. Stay on the US 460 East bypass around the two cities. Stay on US 460 East several miles past Lynchburg toward Appomattox to the Mt Athos Rd. (Rt. 726) exit. Follow Mt. Athos Rd. about .5 miles and turn right on Stage Rd. Follow Stage Rd. about 1.3 miles to the quarry on the right and the meeting place in the quarry parking lot.

I-64 traffic can connect with US 29 South near Charlottesville, VA. Continue south on US 29 to Amherst and follow the new US 29 bypass to Lynchburg. After crossing the new James River Bridge, take the US 460 East exit to Appomattox. Continue on US 460 East a short distance to the Mt. Athos exit and continue as above to the quarry.

Those approaching from other routes should be directed by a good Virginia road map. The US 460, Mt. Athos Rd (726) exit is in Campbell County several miles east of Lynchburg.

Continued on next page

DMC Event...*continued from pg. 11*

EQUIPMENT: The Boxley Quarries are very safety conscious. Standard quarry gear is required. Hard hats, steel toe boots or other substantial boots and safety glasses. Good protective clothing and gloves should be worn (no shorts). It may be very hot in the quarry so be sure to bring plenty of water and sunscreen. Dress according to the weather in Lynchburg that day. Bring your own collecting equipment such as hammers, chisels and buckets. We will be allowed to drive into the quarry.

AGE LIMIT: Children of all ages will be allowed but it will be the parents responsibility to keep them under control at all times and see that they obey all the safety requirements. The same dress and safety equipment requirements apply. Pets will be allowed only if they are under total control and will not be allowed to roam free. Pet owners must clean up after their pets.

ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS: The Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg will provide hot food such as chicken BBQ, snacks and cold drinks for a small fee around noon. If you have any special food concerns please bring your own food. There are no fast food places close to the quarry. We will have at least one geologist on hand all day to assist in mineral identification. Boxley will provide a couple of Porta-Potties in the quarry for our use.

ROCK SWAP AND SELL: We encourage everyone to bring rocks, minerals or other related items to sell or swap. This will not be a Flea Market! Just bring some rocks to swap and or sell if you have some really good stuff. Show off and sell some of those cabs, crafts and wire wrappings that you've been working on. You can work out of your car or a small table behind your car.

LODGING: Many motels are available in Lynchburg. The following are at the Candler's Mountain Exit with easy access to US 460

- ?? DAYS INN 434-847-8655
- ?? Comfort Inn 434-847-9041
- ?? Best Western 434-237-2986

CONTACT: David Callahan, Field Trip Chairman
e-mail: DBCALL1@aol.com Phone: 540-297-1853
www.lynchburgrockclub.org

NOTE: Severe weather or other crisis beyond our control may result in canceling or rescheduling this trip.

OK gang, now it's our turn to host a Dixie Mineral Council field trip. This opportunity comes around about every three years. This will be our fourth sponsored trip. We want it to be a memorable experience for all member club rockhounds. Boxley Materials, Elisha Hall and other officials have been extremely cooperative and have provided everything that we have asked for. We expect more than 50 from many surrounding states.

We will need lots of help from club members and I will have more specific information as to what help is needed at the April and May meetings.

Thank you in advance for your assistance. It will be a fun day and a chance to meet many new rockhounds.

David Callahan, Field Trip Chairman

Dixie Mineral Council of the SFMS



The Dixie Mineral Council is an official program of the Southeastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies, and currently consists of over 85 member clubs.

"We are an association of field trip leaders within the Southeastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies who have agreed to join together and share one of our mineral or fossil field trips."

For more information on the DMC including policies, please visit <http://www.memphisgeology.org/dmc.htm>

Presidents Message... *cont. from pg. 1*

The rock saw the club purchased for workshop use is not fully operational at this time. I need to get the wiring checked on the automatic feed motor. I hope to do that this month. If you are good at diagnosing electrical problems, please give me a call.

There was a very good response to the refreshment signup sheet for April's meeting. Thanks to all who signed up, it looks like this system may work well. (List on page 10)

Remember we will have an on time drawing at the start of the meeting instead of door prizes later in the evening.

Say Hello to Dianne Capobianco on arrival, she will be our greeter for the April 18th meeting. I hope to see you there.

**Keep Looking Down,
John Haskins**

ATTENTION MEMBERS

Hello to All,

We collected a lot of nice Travertine on the trip Saturday, and have cut one rock in to manageable sizes. I hope to borrow the saw again this weekend and finish rough cutting the other rocks into candle and paperweight sizes. All of these will have to be re-cut on a diamond saw and then sanded and polished to a good finish.

I hope to pickup the cut to size & formed aluminum for the sluice project this Thursday. These parts will have to be welded before we can assemble the sluices and plumbing. I am planning on workshops for May 5th and May 12th to finish the Travertine and the sluices. That will give us a couple of weekends to fall back on if needed. Check your schedules to see if these are good dates. Some of the ladies may want to use these days to finish up our jewelry and gem trees.

I will have a signup sheet for workshops at the April 18th meeting. We will need an Executive Committee meeting on May 2nd to make final plans for workshops and the May 26 DMC trip. I know it's a lot going on but if we will plan and pull together we can do all this with just a little effort.

Thanks

John Haskins

January Meeting Minutes...

from pg. 2

New Business: Dave Woolley talked about the Trip to Franklin NJ in April. Tours will be given in previously closed areas on the conveyor belt. He also let everyone who is interested in "Fluorescent Minerals" know that this is THE TRIP to make for those minerals. Much history and much to learn there.

Door Prizes: Diane Capobianco won a quartz specimen from England, and Bernardino Rivera won a Palm Wood Agate.

During our program Nell McIntyre fell ill and was taken to Lynchburg General Hospital.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Nell and Don!

**Respectfully submitted
Dee Tinsley, Secretary**

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Karl Everett
Stephens City, VA**



**Sheila Krull
Lynchburg, VA**



**Carrie Keehan &
Family
Appomattox, VA**



**Randy Baker
Heath Springs, SC**



**Cindy, Donald,
Wayne, Marie,
Ashton, & Taylor
Mitchell
Altavista, VA**



FOR SALE:

FUND RAISER FOR NEW LOCATION FOR J.M.U. GEOLOGY MUSEUM

During our clubs recent field trip to James Madison University Geology Dept, we were very pleased to be given a tour of the new proposed location for the Geology Museum, in Memorial Hall, by Dr. Lance Kerns. More than a dozen large displays cases need to be purchased for the Museum. Dr. Kerns is offering for sale his collection of **The Mineralogical Record Magazines, Volume 1 thru 36 from years 1970 to the present for \$1400.00 for the complete set.** The set consists of over 210 volumes with a few extra publications from each year. I think the going price on E-Bay is over \$2000.00. If interested please contact any club officer or Dr. Lance Kerns at J.M.U. 540-568-6421; or KEARNSLE@JMU.EDU.



Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA Inc Membership Application

(All information for official club use only)

Date _____

Print Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Additional Members Names:

Spouse/ Sig. _____

Other _____

Children/

Ages _____

**Dues: First Person: \$15.00 per year,
Each additional family member \$3.25**

Mail To:

**P.O. Box 2348
Lynchburg, VA 24501**

The Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA Inc.

Natalie Darling, Editor

211 Chesterfield Rd.

Lynchburg, VA 24502 www.lynchburgrockclub.org

The purpose of the Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg, INC. is to promote education in The Earth Sciences including: Mineralogy, Geology, Gemology, Paleontology, and Crystallography



Lynchburg Rock Raiders is the official FRA association of The Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA INC



Extra Photo's from the Morefield Mine Field Trip,
Submitted by Dave Callahan.

