



# Gem & Mineral Journal



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

February 2007

Volume 16 Issue 2

## Presidents Message:



Hello To All,

January's meeting was really a great start for an exciting year for the GMSL. Thanks again to Ed & Elaine Blackford for a wonderful presentation of their Opal mining trip to Nevada. Everyone was very impressed with the beautiful opal specimens. You drew an audience of over 60 people at the meeting. Come back anytime.

I started with exciting, because of the new plans for 2007. Shannon Bondurant has volunteered to be the adult liaison for the Rock Raiders Club. She has some great ideas for RR activities and programs that sound like they will be very educational and a lot of fun at the same time. I am sure the whole club will get behind this effort and support our children in any way that is needed.

Also Dave Callahan has just introduced to the Executive Committee a great new idea for fund raising at the Festivals & sales events for the GMSL. I won't steal his thunder here, you will just have to come to the February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting and see what the

new plans will be.

I really love to see new people and new ideas come to the forefront. It generates more interest in Club activities and also gives us new projects & challenges.

Speaking of projects, the Club has received requests from a good number of organizations that are asking us if we will donate rocks, minerals & crystals for their use. The Nature Center here in Lynchburg and the 4-H Educational Center at Holiday Lake have requested help with filling their needs for display material as well as samples for teaching. Also the Claytor Lake Nature Center in Bedford County has also asked for display specimens as a teaching aid. I hope that the Rock Raiders Club will take on some of these requests as a project. It's nice to be called on for these types of requests and to become well known in the community. Here I would like to thank everyone involved for getting the word out & promoting the GMSL to Lynchburg and surrounding areas. Keep up the good work.

*Continued on page 11*

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## From the First VP:

Did you know that fire agate is a variety of quartz (silicon dioxide) sometimes with some iron and aluminum? Fire agate is also know as chalcedony and is fashioned into cabochons. Fire agate is a protective stone and aids relaxation. Fire agate does not belong to a crystal system and is a tectosilicate like opal. Amazingly chalcedony comes right before opal in The Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Rocks and Minerals.

Opal was featured in January's meeting with Ed Blackford. Our thanks and appreciation goes to Ed and his wife Elaine for a great presentation about Virgin Valley Opals. And sometimes flip-flops can be

effective personal gear for collecting obsidian.

For February's meeting, we have invited Sam and Sharon Dunaway to speak about Alaska and the Morefield Mine. Sam has extensive experience as a geologist in Alaska and has recently returned from exploring a glacier and caves in Alaska. He visited a copper mine while in Alaska. Sam and Sharon also run the Morefield Mine here in Amelia County, Virginia. The Morefield Mine is an outstanding source for gem amazonite and other minerals.

And even more amazingly amazonite is also a tectosilicate and comes right after opal in The Audubon Society

*Continued on page 11*

**2007 ELECTED OFFICERS****John Haskins - PRESIDENT**

(434) 525-8430

[JMHaskins1@netzero.net](mailto:JMHaskins1@netzero.net)**Steve Boylan****First Vice President**

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[midkiff@aol.com](mailto:midkiff@aol.com)**Members At Large-**

JoAnn Mason &amp;

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

## January Meeting Minutes

**Meeting:** 7:00 PM, Wednesday,  
January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007**Attendance:** 68**Hospitality:** Kim N and Nell  
McIntyre We thank them both!**Old Business:** John Haskins, Pres.  
called the meeting to order.Dave Woolley announced he would  
contact Radford this week about the  
minerals of Virginia project they  
requested help on. Ed Blackford  
stated the museum would be  
opening this Saturday.John announced that Shannon  
Bondurant would be taking over  
Rock Raiders next month. The RR  
will meet during our business  
meeting in Feb. Dee Tinsley gave  
Shannon all the printed materials she  
had and information concerning  
membership cards, certificates, etc.  
Dee will continue to assist Shannon  
with written materials, as she needs  
them.**First Vice President:** Steve  
Boylan announced that Sam  
Dunaway would be our speaker for  
Feb. Sam and his wife own and  
operate the Morefield Mine in  
Amelia VA.**Second Vice President:** Dave  
Callahan gave details of the trip to  
JMU on Jan 27<sup>th</sup> and said he and  
Royce Wickam were looking into a  
Luck Stone quarry near  
Charlottesville for a possible Feb.  
field trip. In March we will go with  
the Roanoke club to the  
Smithsonian Institute. There are 54  
seats on the bus, get your name in  
quick if you wish to go. In April we  
will go back to Kentucky in searchof geodes. May will be the DMC  
field trip we are hosting and he  
hopes to get us in with the  
Northern VA Club on a fossil trip.**Treasurer:** Franklin Midkiff  
reported that the Treasury has a  
current balance of \$5276.90. He  
has paid the Eastern federation  
dues, the Post Office Box fee, and  
the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter newsletter  
expenses. The Southeast  
Federation insurance payment is  
still pending.**Door Prizes:** One of the  
Bondurant children won a quartz  
crystal, Chris Woolley won a seed  
fern fossil, and Dave Woolley won  
a beaded necklace donated by Dee  
Tinsley.**New Business:** John Haskins  
requested we look into the  
purchase of equipment such as  
new capping machines, saws, etc.  
A committee will be formed and  
report back to the membership on  
what is available and the cost.**Program:** Ed Blackford gave a  
wonderful presentation on the  
Opals of Nevada. The adventures  
he and his family experienced and  
the slides he showed were  
fantastic. The scenery alone is  
reason enough to head west. The  
finds are "what makes the trip  
super". Thanks to Ed for a  
wonderful presentation!  
If you wish to see some of them,  
go to the website  
[www.nevadaopal.com](http://www.nevadaopal.com) for  
information.**Respectfully submitted:**  
*Dee Tinsley, Secretary*

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!**

### January Program

Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007

#### Virgin Valley Opals by Ed Blackford

Ed and his wife Elaine are members of the Roanoke Valley Mineral and Gem Society. Ed grew up in Montana, and can be quoted as saying he was "always picking up rocks".



Ed first laid eyes on these virgin valley opals in a gift shop, and thought they were the most beautiful rocks he had ever seen. This stirred an interest that would be further explored.

We are not talking about just a couple of days here, as these opals, in Virgin Valley Nevada, are located in the northwest corner of the state in the Sheldon National Wildlife Preserve. Not only does a trip of this nature take time, but planning is also essential as the mines are only open between June and September. There are many things to consider when planning such a trip- will you fly (costly and weight restrictive, car rental on arrival) or drive (can be costly, very time consuming) and will you visit other areas while traveling.

There are no hotels close to the mines, but some camping is available. Again, if flying, camping may not be the most feasible option. This was a very interesting program, and the scenic slides and specimens were beautiful. We thank Ed and Elaine for taking the time to share their adventure with our members.

There are several web sites that can offer more information, and specimens are also for sale if you are interested in owning a bit of the product without the travel.

[www.nevadaopal.com](http://www.nevadaopal.com) is the website for the Rainbow Ridge Mine, and [www.virginvalleyopal.com](http://www.virginvalleyopal.com) will also bring you to an interesting site. [www.goldnuggetwebs.com/VVOPALS/](http://www.goldnuggetwebs.com/VVOPALS/) is a good site showing some history, geology, trip tips, opal facts and maps as well as photographs of the opals. It also provides links to websites of different mines where the opals can be found.

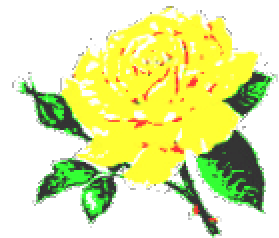
## Welcome New Members:

Jack and  
Sharon  
Curtin of  
Lynchburg,  
VA

Shannon,  
Ernest, Naomi,  
& Luke  
Bondurant of  
Big Island, VA.

Sherry &  
Sue Gaeta  
of Tyro,  
VA

Zackary  
Knight of  
Madison  
Heights, VA



Deepest sympathy to Club members Loretta Doty and Doris Carneglia, on the recent loss of club member Rick Carneglia, Loretta's dad and Doris' husband. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you in your time of sorrow. Also wishing those members recovering from recent surgeries and illnesses all the best for a speedy recovery.



# Field Trip Report

January 27, 2007

James Madison University

New Geology Department, Harrisonburg, Virginia

Combined Lynchburg and Roanoke Clubs

A January field trip is always iffy as the weather can be so unpredictable. This Saturday turned out to be a beautiful day. It was clear and cold and no bad weather was in the forecast.

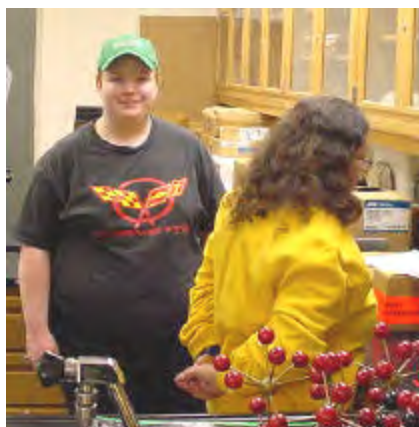
We began arriving in the Memorial Hall parking lot about 8:15 and we found that Dr. Kearns was already waiting with hot coffee and snacks.

When everyone arrived there were 23 club members and guests. Dr. Kearns had some surplus books for sale and they were quickly sold. The new facilities are very nice and everything was close at hand. We had several unknown minerals identified by x-ray diffraction and a brand new machine that uses laser technology. There were lots of minerals around in drawers, on shelves and on the tables for our examination. In the hall were display cabinets with additional minerals and educational material.

Dr. Kearns gave us a tour of the new mineral display room. This will be a state of the art mineral museum. It will have a temperature and humidity controlled environment. The mineral display cabinets, yet to be purchased hopefully will be donated by interested individuals, clubs and organizations. The cost per cabinet is very reasonable and if anyone, club or even a group of individuals would be interested in sponsoring one let me know and I will put you in touch with Dr. Kearns. If memory serves me correctly there will be space for 20 plus cabinets at a cost of around \$2000 each.

After we left JMU several of us visited an old nearby abandoned quarry and collected some beautiful banded Travertine or Cave Onyx as it's sometime called. What a way to end the day! This rather unique field trip will be long remembered.

Article and photographs Submitted by Dave Callahan, Field Trip Chairman



## 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 Kearns. More than a dozen large displays cases need to be purchased for the Museum. Dr. Kearns 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 Kearns at J.M.U. 540-568-6421; or [KEARNSLE@JMU.EDU](mailto:KEARNSLE@JMU.EDU).



# Up Coming Field Trips

For further information on field trips, contact David Callahan,  
540-297-1853  
Email [dbc11@aol.com](mailto:dbc11@aol.com)

## FUTURE FIELD TRIPS

FEBRUARY 2007

Our planned trip to a new quarry in the Charlottesville area has not yet materialized. At this point in time, due to the freezing weather, hazardous freeze/thaw conditions in the quarry making the walls very unstable, we will probably not try to schedule a trip this month. These potential cold weather hazards make quarries unsafe and not worth the risk of possible injury.

*Attention all Lynchburg Gem and Mineral Society members!!!*

**ROANOKE VALLEY MINERAL & GEM SOCIETY, INC.**  
**FIELD TRIP MARCH 3rd 2007**  
**THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE**  
**MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, WASHINGTON, DC.**  
**THE LYNCHBURG GEM & MINERAL HAS BEEN INVITED TO ATTEND.**

**Cost \$10.00 per person for the two way Bus trip.** There will be a sign up sheet at our Lynchburg Club February 21st meeting. You **MUST** sign up and prepay for this trip. Checks will be accepted at the Bus if you can't make the meeting. Make the checks payable to the "Roanoke Valley Mineral and Gem Society Inc."

**MEETING PLACE:** Wal-Mart Super center parking lot at the intersection of US 460 and Rt. 220 Alternate in Bonsack, VA. At this traffic light there are signs directing you to the I-81 interchange in Cloverdale. Do not turn right on Rt. 220A but proceed straight thru this traffic light on US 460 W. The entrance to Wal-Mart is on the right immediately after you cross this intersection so stay in the right lane. Turn right up the hill and turn right again into the Wal-Mart parking lot. The Abbott Trailways Bus should be there by 5:30AM parked near the Wal-Mart Auto Garage area. Look for our group and we will leave our cars in the Wal-Mart lot.

**DEPARTING:** The Bus will depart from the lot promptly at 6:00 AM and stragglers will be left. Be sure to have eaten breakfast before getting on the Bus. We expect to arrive at the Museum at 10:00 AM. There will be one rest stop on the way up.

**EQUIPMENT:** Cameras are acceptable but tripods are not allowed.

**TOURS:** There will be no guided tours. You will be on your own.

**HOURS:** 10:00AM to 5:00 PM Admission is free. Expect to go thru security screening so don't take things that might be confiscated as weapons.

**MEALS:** There is a cafe on the main floor open from 10 to 5. The average lunch is about \$8.00. Bag lunches are not allowed in the museum but you can picnic on the mall.

**RESTRICTIONS:** The Bus is limited to 54 seats. This trip is on a first come, first served basis. Over 54 members will be placed on a waiting list. The fee will be refundable if you can't make it. Be sure to call if you have signed up and cannot make the trip.

**DEPARTING:** The Bus will depart from the main entrance at 5:00 PM sharp. It will be your responsibility to make the connection. We should arrive back at Wal-Mart between 10:00 and 11:00 PM. There will be a stop for the evening meal along the way. This cost or anything you spend at the museum are not included in the fee. It is strictly for the bus ride.

**INFORMATION:** Call David Callahan at 540-297-1853 or Royce Wickham 540-427-1424 if you need additional information or want to reserve a seat on the bus.



# Rock Raiders

The new adult liaison for the Rock Raiders, Shannon Bondurant, met with the executive committee this month. Shannon is very excited, and has some great ideas and goals for our Future Rockhounds.

The Rock Raiders will meet during our regular club business meeting, in a different room.

Below is an outline of some of the goals Shannon has for the Rock Raiders. Please come out and help support our future rockhounds of America.

## **Rock Raiders' Goals:** *submitted by Shannon Bondurant*

1. To learn how to **classify** everyday rocks using hand-on specimens. \* A few simple tests and observations will help you place your specimens into a **category** (*igneous, sedimentary, or metamorphic*). It may not be the full proper name for your specimen, but it will put it into the right family. Once you get to know the family by name you feel a little closer to it and it becomes familiar. Soon you will begin to learn the names of some of the different members of the family.
2. To learn how to tell rocks and minerals apart-**identify**-using hands-on specimens. \*Between 2500-3000 minerals have been identified, but there are only 60 that you will come across in the field. They are identified by their various characteristics-**color, luster, streak** and **hardness** are the obvious ones. We will learn these techniques.
3. To learn mining **procedures** and the **proper equipment** to use when collecting specimens (hands-on)
4. To provide the group with **opportunities** for the collection of local minerals, while implementing what we have learned.

You can contact Shannon at: [Weenonahshannon@aol.com](mailto:Weenonahshannon@aol.com) or phone: 434-299-5158

## **Suggested meetings' materials:**

- \* The Golden Guide to Rocks and Minerals by Herbert Zim and Paul Shaffer - \$6.95
- \* 1 package of index cards-regular size
- \* a magnifying lens
- \* a headlamp or flashlight
- \* a few rocks for show and tell



## **Suggested field trip tools, and PPE (Personal Protection Equipment) :**

- \* hard hat \* safety boots - steel toe or the most sturdy that you can find
- \* knee- high rubber boots
- \* safety glasses
- \* leather workman's gloves
- \* brick hammer
- \* a good chisel
- \* bucket or collection bag
- \* newspaper to wrap specimens in



## **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.



Executive Board Meeting Minutes – Feb 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
 Natalie Darling's House 7 PM.  
 John Haskins asked about Special  
 Events for 2007.

The Board discussed four options:

- 1) Uncle Billie's Day
- 2) Second Gem & Mineral Day at Coolwell
- 3) Garlic Festival
- 4) Apple Harvest Festival



*Dee Tinsley, GMSL Secretary*

The decision was made to hold only two events in addition to our participation in the Roanoke show in November due to the volume of obligations we will have this year. The two events will be Uncle Billie's Day in Altavista in June and the Apple Festival at Amherst High School in October.

New projects were discussed and materials will be gathered to make some new products to sell and a new sluice for our shows.

Shannon Bondurant joined the Board to discuss her role with the Rock Raiders who will meet at the same time as the regular club meeting but in a different room.

Shannon shared with the board her goals and the materials we have to begin with. Compiled together there is about 5 or six years of projects and information there. She will have Dave Woolley working with her to teach the children how to identify rocks, what the three types of rocks are and the 8 "most important minerals to know" and how to identify them in the field.

The Board voted to keep the stamp collection going and if we win the lottery from the Federation the winning prize will be auctioned at our November auction.

Dave Woolley brought to our attention that members of our club should be compensated when they do a program as well as outside presenters. Dee Tinsley moved that we pay the members the same and the motion carried.

Claytor Lake Nature Center was discussed and we will donate specimens to the Rock Raiders to make a display for the Nature Center and the Rock Raiders will present it to them.

We still need donations for the Kemper Street Station display.

John announced that Linwood Harris of Chase City is selling his equipment and he has saws, cabs, etc. Nona suggested we buy the cords for the bolero ties and make them to sell. We are also sending out a scouting party to look at the 16" to 18" saw.

Laticia Villarreal of Holiday Lake has asked for assistance at the camp in Mineral Identification. John Haskins is getting a set of rocks for her to use.

Linkhorne Elementary School has asked for us to participate in an after school project teaching selected students about Gems and Minerals. This is the same request as we received from Paul Monro School last year. Dave Woolley and Steve Boylan volunteered to each do one of the four programs and we will assist the teachers with materials to teach the other two.

Radford University has invited us to visit their museum and set up a field trip for us per Dave Woolley. Dave is currently collecting Virginia mineral specimens for their display also. If you have something you would like to donate, see Dave W. or bring it to the club meeting.

Refreshments were furnished by Natalie Darling and enjoyed by all.

***Respectfully Submitted,  
 Dee Tinsley, Secretary***



*DEAR GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY OF LYNCHBURG*

*For many years we have enjoyed the annual visits to the James Madison University Mineral Museum from members of various mineral societies and clubs throughout the region. A year ago, the Geology Department had to move out of Miller Hall (our previous place of residence) and into our new home at Memorial Hall. As you know, this necessitated packing up the specimens from the museum and putting them in storage for safekeeping. Since then we have missed the many visits from mineral clubs, grade schools, high schools, and other interested individuals who came to enjoy our Museum Displays. I have also personally missed the exciting times of those winter Saturdays running the X-ray Diffractometer and Scanning Electron Microscope to identify as many of those unknown minerals as possible. Fortunately, we will be able to do it all again soon.*

*I am happy to share some wonderful news for all mineral enthusiasts!! As a result of the efforts of Dr. David Brakke (Dean of the College of Science and Mathematics) the University has provided us with a 608 square foot, secure, dedicated room for the new James Madison University Mineral Museum. In addition, they have generously provided us with \$50,000.00 to remodel the room into the display facility that we want. The engineers have worked out the details and will begin construction during the beginning of 2007. We hope to have the Museum finished by the end of summer.*

*I would like to invite your club or member(s) of your club to participate in an opportunity to be part of something exciting and educational in the field of mineralogy, right here in your own region. Help us get the beautiful JMU mineral collection back on public display with new cases for the new museum. We are initially planning on a total of sixteen lighted display cases for the newly remodeled room. Your club or individual members of the club can help support this project through a donation of funds for a display case. Each case would represent a tax-deductible gift of \$2,000.00 and would display a brass plaque permanently recognizing the gift from the club or individual(s). We need a little help to get the job done right, and we hope that you can all come and enjoy and learn from the mineral displays when they are finished.*

*I am very excited about the new facility, and the ability to once again make our beautiful specimens available for the public to see and learn from. If your club or any individuals would like to help us with the cases please contact me for further details.*

*We look forward to welcoming you to the new facility.*

*Sincerely,  
Lance E. Kearns  
MSC 6903  
Dept. of Geology & Environmental Science  
James Madison University  
Harrisonburg, VA. 22807  
Phone: 540-568-6421  
KEARNSLE@JMU.EDU*



# Schedule of Events

## February 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 <i>Lincolns Birthday</i>	13	14 <i>Happy Valentines Day</i>	15	16	17
18	19 <i>Presidents Day</i>	20	21 <i>Meeting 7PM</i>	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 <i>Woolleys Workshop 7PM</i>			

**February 24<sup>th</sup>- 25<sup>th</sup>**- James Campbell Memorial Gem, Mineral, and Fossil show and sale, New York State Museum, Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY

**March 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>**- Show and Sale, Delaware Mineralogical Society, Delaware Technical and Community College, Newark, DE

**March 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>**-Aiken-Auguata Gem, Mineral and Fossil show and sale, Julian Smith Casino, 2200 Broad St, Augusta, GA

**March 10<sup>th</sup>& 11<sup>th</sup>**- Gaithersburg, MD Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Montgomery Co, Gem Mineral and Fossil Show, Montgomery Co. Fairgrounds, 16 Chestnut St. Sat. 10-6, Sun 11-5 contact George Durland: 301-746-7663 or [gdurland1@verizon.net](mailto:gdurland1@verizon.net)

**March 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>**- Richmond VA, Treasures of the Earth Gem and Mineral Show. Richmond Raceway Complex, 600 E Laburnum Ave. Fri.12-7; Sat. 10-6; Sun. 11-5. Contact Barbara or Peggy, 804-746-7663 or [bhaney8081@aol.com](mailto:bhaney8081@aol.com)

**March 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>**- Catawba Valley Gem and Mineral club show & sale, Hickory Metro Convention Center, Hickory, NC

**March 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>**- Bead Mercantile Show, Raleigh, NC. North Carolina State Fairgrounds, Governor W. Kerr Scott Bldg, w025 Blue Ridge Rd. 423-639-7942.

**Mar 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>**- Chambersburg, PA, Franklin County Rock & Mineral Club Mineral & Jewelry show. Quality Inn, 1095 Wayne Ave. Contact Chenin Hollaway, 717-372-2256 or [chenindesigns@comcast.net](mailto:chenindesigns@comcast.net)

**Mar 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>**- Sayre, PA Che-Hanna Rock & mineral Club, Gem and Mineral Show. Athens Township Fire Hall, 150 Herrick Ave. Contact Hazel Remaley, 570-888-7544 or [Northridge@infoblvd.net](mailto:Northridge@infoblvd.net)

**April 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>**- Treasures of the Earth Gem Show, Charlottesville, VA. Details at [www.toteshows.com](http://www.toteshows.com)

## Program for February Meeting

Minerals and Rocks seen at Morefield Mine, Amelia Virginia. With guest speaker Sam Dunaway, owner of the mine.

Sam will also share with us findings from his recent mining adventures in Alaska.

I have seen the following minerals at Morefield Mine. How many of these do you have in your collection?

Beryl, topaz, spessartite garnets, prosopite, feldspar, amazonite, tantalite, monazite, phenacite, zircon crystal, arsenopyrite, cassiterite, flourite, tourmaline, cryolite, elpasolite(purple), brockite, chlorophane, molybdenite, maganese dentrite, phenacite, strengite, common pegmatite, basalt, gneiss, triplite on clevelandite, corundum and smoky quartz and mica books.

## Program for March Meeting

Morenci Copper Mine and Fire Agate - Bill Gilbert, club member and Eastern Federation Region IV vice president.

**A letter from Ken Anderson, SFMS Treasurer:**

Hi All,

Well it looks like I will be handling the AFMS endowment fund for the SFMS in 2007, this is year 5. If someone has a volunteer, please let's get them in the loop.

In the meantime, I must again ask for prizes that can be placed in the awards kitty. These prizes are usually hobby related items; mineral specimens & lapidary work can be alone or with others. We have had items from Tomahawks to faceted stones, all graciously received by Joy Bourne the AFMS Chairman.

Recognition is the only value given for items donated' a short write up will be published in the AFMS website and newsletter along with a professional photograph.

If club members wish to help in this effort, please let me know.

You will be helping support the source of many of our Federation's Educational video and slide library.

In 2006 the SFMS did an outstanding job in supporting this program by donating several fine and unique items. Thanks for your help.

**Best Regards,**  
**Ken Anderson,**  
SFMS Treasurer

[27k.da66@rjsonline.net](mailto:27k.da66@rjsonline.net) or  
803.547.5147



**Year - 2007** The following clubs will be hosting DMC field trips in 2007. For complete details you can visit the website:

<http://www.gaminal.org/dixie-frame-main.htm>

**January** - Cobb County GMS (Marietta, GA)

**February** - Mid-Georgia Gem and Mineral Society (Macon, GA)

**March** - KYANA Geological Society (Louisville, KY)

**April** - Cotton Indian Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. (Stockbridge, GA)

**May** - Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg Virginia, Inc.

**June** - Charles Town Mineral & Lapidary Club (Charleston, SC)

**July** - Middle Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society (Murfreesboro, TN)

**August** - Tennessee Valley Rock and Mineral Club (Chattanooga, TN)

**September** - Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society (Montgomery, AL)

**October** - Lowcountry Gem & Mineral Society (Charleston, SC)

**November** - Western South Carolina G&MS (Greenville, SC)

**December** - OPEN

*The information below is re-printed from February 2007 edition of THE TIDEWATER PROSPECTOR, Newsletter for the Tidewater Gem and Mineral Society, Virginia Beach, VA. I have not gone to all of the websites listed, but have visited several. Anyone visiting a site and wishing to write a review for our newsletter is encouraged to do so. We would love to hear from you!*

The following rockhound related internet sites are all worth a visit:

<http://www.amfed.org/efmls> - Website for the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary Societies, of which we are affiliated.

<http://www.rockhounds.com/rockshop/table.shtml> - "Bob's Rockshop" is probably the most complete internet resource for those interested in the Earth sciences.

<http://www.irocks.com> - "The Arkenstone" is one of the better internet mineral dealers. The owner, Rob Lavinsky, conducts auctions every week of top quality minerals.

<http://www.harmons.net> - Montana agate anyone? Then Harmon's Agate and Silver is the place for you!

<http://www.trinityminerals.com/index.htm> - "Trinity Mineral Company" is another really fine internet dealer with regular mineral auctions. They also have show reports online for many of the bigger shows that they attend.

<http://www.sunnywood.com> - "The Sunnywood Collection" sells quality mineral specimens which have been custom mounted by them on wood or acrylic bases. They also provide a custom mounting service for your own favorite minerals.

<http://www.collectorsedge.com/indexflash.cfm> - "The Collector's Edge" is another high end mineral dealer stationed in Colorado. Check out their inventory of rhodochrosite crystals from the Sweet Home Mine.

<http://www.minrec.org/contents.asp> - "The Mineralogical Record" is a first class magazine and very informative website for the mineral collector in all of us! Check it out.

<http://www.mindat.org> - Mindat.org is the largest mineral database and mineralogical reference website on the internet. This site contains worldwide data on minerals, mineral collecting, mineral localities and other mineralogical information.

Re-printed from the American  
Federation Website

## Presidents Message

*continued from page 1*

I look forward to serving you as President again this year, because I love rock hounding and like to see more people become interested in the many things the club has to offer. To add to all this, I would like to see materials & classes offered at our ever growing workshops for club members. With a little wire for jewelry making & stones for gem tree creations along with the saws, capping machines, faceting machines & microscope we should be able to inspire almost everyone to get involved in a new & creative experience. Come join us, you might like it.

I hope to see you at the February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

**Keep Looking Down,**  
**John Haskins**

## From the First VP...

*Continued from pg 1*

Field Guide to North American Rocks and Minerals. So far we have featured fire agate, opals and amazonite. Are these just random events or is there some force directing this selection of minerals?

**Adieu**  
**Steve!**



▼ Cut out and send to the address above. ▼

To: Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee

I support the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies' efforts to get gemstones on American stamps. Gemstones have never appeared on U.S. stamps and would be very attractive. Everyone would enjoy their beauty, they would not be controversial and American gems would continue the theme of America's Mineral Heritage.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Important Web Sites:** Lynchburg Gem and Mineral Society: [www.lynchburgrockclub.org](http://www.lynchburgrockclub.org)

American and Southeast Federation Websites:

The SFMS Newsletter, the Eastern Federation Newsletter, and the AFMS Newsletter are available for all members to read on line at: [www.amfed.org/sfms](http://www.amfed.org/sfms), [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org) and [www.amfed.org/efmls](http://www.amfed.org/efmls)



**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](http://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

