

# GEM & MINERAL JOURNAL

Volume 19 Issue 10  
September 2010

## Presidents Message:

Hello To All,

It is great to see that fall weather is on the way. Cooler temperatures with sunny days and the trees changing color with a crispness in the air, it is a perfect time for outdoor fun especially rock hunting. I hope everyone will take time to enjoy an outing before winter sets in. But before that, the GMSL has a number of things for members to participate in.

October the 16-17<sup>th</sup> we have a sales booth at the Apple Harvest festival. This is the weekend before our next Club meeting; I hope everyone that is going to volunteer to help has signed up already.

The weekend after this festival, on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, the GMSL is hosting a Dixie Mineral Council field trip to Kyanite Mining Corp in Buckingham

County, VA From 9:00AM until 5:00 PM. We will be serving lunch to 50 to 75 hungry rock hounds. This means we will need a lot of volunteers to help out with lunch and several other jobs to be covered at our October meeting.

Speaking of which, October is our annual auction meeting. If you have more specimens than you need please bring them to the meeting so others will have a chance to bid on material that they may not have had a chance to collect for themselves. We have always had a great time at the auction so come on out, bring friends and family, the more the merrier.

Our Club is setting up a Fluorescent Mineral Display as well as the Gem & Mineral Sluice and sales tables at the Salem Civic Center for the annual

*Continued on page 11*

## From the First VP:

Let's everybody check our bankrolls before our next meeting coming up Wednesday the 20th of October. We'll want lots of money for our club's annual rock, gem, and mineral auction. There will be something for everyone; all up for bid. This has always been the meeting I've looked forward to all year because we'll have a chance to add things to our collections that we haven't had the opportunity to collect ourselves. There will be bargains galore, but beware, an auction is still the one place where you can still get something for "nodding", though of course you do have to stay to

the "bidder" end.

Oh, yes, please bring along that special something or two or three something's that you might want to donate to the club for the auction. You'll be contributing to the club and whittling down your rock inventory to more reasonable levels. Please remember to label each rock/mineral that you donate with its identification and the collection site. That information will make your specimen that much more desirable to folks interested in that particular item. In the past members brought

*Continued on page 11*

**2010 ELECTED OFFICERS****John Haskins - PRESIDENT**

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[JMHaskins1@netzero.net](mailto:JMHaskins1@netzero.net)**First Vice President****Jack Curtin**

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JoAnn Mason &amp;

Tom Powers

**COMMITTEE****CHAIR PERSONS:****Field Trips**– David Callahan**Hospitality**-**News Articles**– Natalie Darling**Silent Auction**– Warren Darling**Swap for Rocks**–Warren Darling**Website**– Casper Voogt**Workshops**– Dave Woolley**FRA Adult Liaison-****Membership**- Ralph Torning

# September Meeting Minutes

**Meeting:**Wednesday, September 15, 2010**Attendance:** 24 members and 5 guests**Hospitality:** Jack Curtin was our host this month; Tony and Cindy Shields will be the hosts for October.**On Time Drawing:** Winners were Jon Glass, Scott Drusky, Nathan Lester, Tony Shields, Gabriella Desmond, Tom Powers, George Mires, and Jack Curtin**Old Business:** John Haskins: October Auction – we need specimens to sell; Apple Festival is before our next meeting so sign up to come and help No workshop at Dave Woolley's this month.

Saturday workshop at David Callahan's on 9/18 and 9/25 to get ready for the upcoming events.

Inclement weather – if the schools are closed, this building is not available so the meeting would be cancelled.

**First Vice President:** Jack Curtin: The program tonight will be provided by Scott Drusky from the Shenandoah Club.**Second Vice President:** Field trips/ Activities: Moorefield Mine will be open from 9/27-10/31.

Apple Festival – October 16 &amp; 17; Dixie Mineral Field Trip on 10/23/10 – we are the host for this and we will be going to Willis Mountain (near Farmville) from 95 – Helpers are needed in order to make this a success. We need to get there prior to 9:00 and we need to wear our T-shirts.

VIP VT Open House on 10/30/10 – great opportunity to buy some minerals. Additional information will be sent out.

Thanksgiving Gem Show at the Salem Civic Center on 11/26-11/28 – Hours for Friday are 7-2, Saturday are 10-6, and Sunday 12-5. We will be in charge of the fluorescent display and also have our sluice line set up. Again we will need volunteers to make this a success.

**Treasurers Report:** Franklin Midkiff: checking account balance \$4295.22**New Business:** Shenandoah Fieldtrips will be broadcast so we will have an opportunity to participate. Sluice bags items – we need to buy extra items for additional bags when needed. The cost with shipping will be about \$260.*Continued on page 11*

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!*

# Programs

The program for September was presented by Scot Duersky from the Shenandoah Club. Thank You Scott, for taking the time to be a part of our monthly club meeting.

## GMSL Annual Auction

**Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM**

The auction will follow a brief business meeting. We are still accepting donations of any hobby related items. Self collected surplus, and used hobby related items that you no longer have a use for are gladly accepted. Remember - One mans junk is another's treasure. In the past we have had beautiful specimens, jewelry, lapidary magazines, and many happy bidders.

Please join us, bring your friends and family, and enjoy a night of bidding on some items that you didn't know you couldn't live without!

All proceeds benefit the Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg. Thanks for your continued support!

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If you haven't seen the NGC's first episode on the giant crystal cave, this second look at the cave should be very enlightening. If you've seen the first one, you'll definitely be excited to learn there is a new episode.

Showing on Oct 10 at 8 and 11PM, plus 3 more repeats are listed. (More information at the link below.)

NGC goes inside one of the greatest natural marvels on the planet- a giant crystal cave described as Superman's fortress, with magnificent crystals up to 36 feet long and weighing 55 tons. A team of experts venture into the cavern, enduring scorching-hot temperatures that could kill a human after just 15 minutes of exposure. They'll push the boundaries of physical limitation to explore a crevasse that could lead to another- and perhaps more spectacular- crystal cave.

Read more:

<http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/episode/into-the-lost-crystal-caves-4636/Overview#tab-Overview#ixzz10Pn29f9W>

*Submitted by Dave Callahan*





**REMEMBER-** sign up is required for all club field trips. Call, email, or see me at the meeting to get on the list.

*Field Trip Report submitted by  
Dave Callahan,  
Field trip chairman.*

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

## The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee

An Official Field Trip of The Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg, Virginia Inc.  
(HOST)

An Official Field Trip of the Roanoke Valley Mineral and Gem Society Inc.

**8:00AM until 5:00PM EDT**  
**Saturday – October 23, 2010**

**KYANITE MINING CORP.**  
**DILLWYN, VA.**  
**WILLIS MOUNTAIN KYANITE MINE**  
**EAST RIDGE KYANITE MINE**

**WHERE:** On US 15 between Farmville and Sprouses Corner, Buckingham County, Virginia. For GPS, enter Dillwyn, VA., and Willis Mt. Plant Rd. Choose James Madison Hwy or Rt. 15 as the location. This is for the office, not the assembly area.

**WHEN:** Saturday – October 23, 2010

**DIRECTIONS:** From the north, at the US 60 and US 15 intersection in Sprouses Corner. Drive south on US 15 for 3 miles. Turn left on Rt. 788, Gieseke Road. This is just before you get to Willis Mt. Plant Rd. Keep straight on 788 to the scale house assembly area. Do not block any mine traffic to the scales.

From the south at the US 460 and US 15 intersection just east of Farmville. Drive north on US 15 for about 18 miles. Go past Willis Mt. Plant Rd. and turn right on Rt. 788, Gieseke Road. Keep straight on 788 to the scale house area assembly area. Do not block any mine traffic to the scales.

**ASSEMBLY TIME:** 8:00 TO 8:45 AM EDT at the Rt. 788 Gieseke Road scale house area for sign-in. We will have a safety briefing starting at 8:45. We will then load up and convoy a short distance to the East Ridge mine about 9:00 AM.

**COLLECTING:** Mostly white with some blue kyanite. (Some of the white crystals fluoresce light blue under a short wave UV lamp.) Quartz, pyrite, white muscovite, green fuchsite and red iron stained muscovite, hematite or goethite coated kyanite with some having a beautiful iridescent coating. The green apatite and trolleite are there but hard to locate. There are several other minerals such as augelite, energite, topaz, lazulite, variscite and goyazite that rarely occur. Recently we have been finding some small but beautiful rutile crystals in the East Ridge mining area.

*Continued on next page*

# Up Coming Field Trips

Continued from page 4

**PLANNED EVENTS:** Departing from the assembly area about 9AM, we will convoy several miles to the East Ridge mining area. We will depart from this location about noon and convoy back to the Willis Mountain mining area. You can drive in to all collecting areas. We will have a barbecue lunch plate available for purchase. This will include a BBQ sandwich, baked beans, cole slaw, chips, cookie and drink. The cost will be \$5.00. You may also bring your own lunch, especially if you are on a special diet. Bring a lawn chair and rest a spell. The view from Willis Mountain (a monadnock) is awesome and you can see for miles. We will then collect on Willis Mountain the rest of the day. You can leave at any time but we must clear the property by 5:30PM.

**AGE LIMIT:** Everyone is welcome but children must be 6 years or older. They will not be allowed to roam around unattended and must obey all safety requirements and have all safety equipment. All pets must be under control at all times.

**EQUIPMENT:** Hard Hat, safety glasses, steel toe or good strong leather boots. No sneakers or sandals will be allowed. You should wear long pants and have gloves. A rock pick or mason's hammer, a 3 to 4 pound crack hammer, chisels and a really large sledge if you are serious about busting rocks. Buckets or bags, newspaper with which to wrap your finds and, of course, plenty of water, snacks and sun screen. Dress according to the weather this day and prepare for a rain shower.

**SAFETY:** Kyanite Mining Corp. is very safety conscious and has an excellent record. We will have several club members in blaze orange vests who will be on the lookout for unsafe situations and conditions. If you are in an unsafe area you will be asked to move. We will be in an active mining area with many potential hazards. Please respect the safety berms, high wall setback and marked unsafe areas. Be aware of your location at all times.

## SEVERAL LODGING SUGGESTIONS:

### Sprouses Corner (about 1 mile away)

Star Motel 1-888-564-5422  
Comfort Inn 434-392-8163

### Farmville (about 20 miles away)

Day's Inn 434-392-6611  
Super 8 Motel 434-392-8196

**CONTACTS:** David Callahan, Field Trip Chairman, The Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA. Inc. Phone: 540-297-1853, Cell: 540-874-5201 (use cell the day of the event only please)  
dbcalls1@aol.com. Visit our web site [www.lynchburgrockclub.org](http://www.lynchburgrockclub.org)

SATURDAY OCTOBER 30, 2010

10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

DEPARTMENT OF GEOSCIENCE  
AT THE VIRGINIA TECH MINERAL  
MUSEUM

2062 Derring Hall

On the Virginia Tech Campus at Perry  
Street near West Campus Drive.  
Blacksburg, Virginia  
(37deg 13' 46.6N, 80 deg 13' 35.6"W)

*Field trip details continued on next page*

SATURDAY OCTOBER 30, 2010

9:30 AM – 4:30 PM

**MOREFIELD MINE (Fee Site)**

<http://www.toteshows.com/morefield.html>

Mine Phone 804-561-0344



# VTech Trip

Continued from page 5

# Morefield Mine Trip

**TRIP:** The Virginia Tech Geology Club and Alumni dealers are holding this show to benefit the Museum. Items available for sale include: Minerals, Rocks, Fossils, Bookends, and many other unique items. For more information, go to [www.outreach.geos.vt.edu](http://www.outreach.geos.vt.edu).

**DESTINATION:** This is a go on your own field trip. I plan to arrive there at 10:00 AM. We will not attempt to drive as a group to Derring Hall on the V.P.I. Campus. Here are the directions:

**From Lynchburg:**

Drive on US 460 West to Bonsack and take US 220 Alternate to I-81 South.

**From Roanoke:**

Drive to I-81 South.

**Continued Directions:**

Once on I-81 South, drive to Christiansburg and exit on 118 A-B-C. Follow the signs to VA. Tech and Blacksburg, exit 118-B. Stay on the US 460 West Christiansburg, bypass and continue to Blacksburg and exit on route 314 east, Southgate Drive (traffic Light). Take a left on Duckpond Road and continue on to Campus Drive. Derring Hall should be straight ahead so cross Campus Drive and find a parking place in the lot behind the building. You can turn left on Campus Drive and then right on Prices Fork Road and then turn right in to the parking lot. There is a campus map on the website and you can check the "central campus" map for additional information. Enter Derring Hall thru the stairs near the middle of the building and find your way to the Geology Lab room 2062. You should arrive at Derring Hall no earlier than 9:45. We will try to assemble in the parking lot and enter as a group. If you are late, you will have to find your own way to the Geology Lab.

**CONTACT:** Ed Blackford, (540) 382-3037  
email: [blackfoe@verizon.net](mailto:blackfoe@verizon.net) or  
David Callahan, Phone 540-297-1853,  
Cell 540-874-5201, email [dbc11@aol.com](mailto:dbc11@aol.com)

**TRIP:** This is a "go on your own" field trip. You will be visiting the famous 70 plus year old Morefield Mine in Amelia, Virginia. You can dig and collect in the old dumps, collect from newly mined material and wash your finds in the sluice line. The closest fast food is McDonalds back several miles in Amelia. You may be able to purchase canned drinks at the mine. This is the last day of the season so there will be many other visitors at the mine.

**COLLECTING:** In addition to the beautiful green amazonite, there will be white clevelandite, several types of mica, massive white topaz, garnet, beryl and others. This mine is noted for many micro minerals that most people just discard. A gold pan is a great way to separate the heavier rare minerals, Take the concentrate home in a container, dry and observe under magnification.

**FEES:** General adult and senior admission and collecting area--- \$12.00 each,----- Children 3 and under free. School aged children priced according to age/ school grade. The admission fee includes up to one five-gallon bucket of rocks per person.

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS: Restrictions on digging in the dump.** No picks or malls, no breaking rocks due to the danger of injuring those nearby. There is a one five-gallon bucket limit with each paid admission. Be sure to bring your own bucket. Additional bucket loads may be purchased for a reasonable fee. You will find a shovel, small short handled hoe and a screwdriver handy tools for digging. Zip lock bags are handy for your small finds.

**DIRECTIONS:** The mine is located in Amelia County, VA. From Lynchburg, the mine is about 90 miles.

Driving from Roanoke or Lynchburg, stay on US 460 East thru Lynchburg. Continue on US 460 East thru Farmville and take Rt. 307 to US 360 East. There is a McDonalds in Amelia. The mine is only about two miles from this point.

From the traffic light at McDonalds on US 360 East in Amelia, drive 1.5 miles East and turn right on Rt. 628 (look for the brown State Morefield Mine sign). The mine entrance will be about 9/10 of a mile on the left. Follow the driveway all the way to the parking area, office and gift shop. Be sure to check in here and pay your fee. Let them know which club you are a member.

## Geology Concepts Part VI

Dave Woolley, Geologist

A **vein** is an open discontinuity partially or completely filled with minerals such as zeolite minerals deposited from descending warm water, or minerals from hot gasses, hot water solutions, and magma ascending from deeper sources. Hydrothermal quartz veins, granite pegmatite, and diabase intrusions are common igneous veins. More exotic are "black smoker" veins created at spreading plate-boundaries in ocean floors. Deep ocean waters circulating within fractures in hot rock, dissolve low-percentage metals and sulphur, transport solutions, and concentrate and crystallize new minerals at cooler seafloor "black smoker vents". Vents may eventually clog up. Black smokers often contain metal sulphide ore-minerals. Black smokers are moved onto continents when plates collide. Note: a fault-cavity, breccia, or cave may also accept new minerals.

**Outcrop** (Noun) The location of an exposure such as, "There is an outcrop of rock in the pasture". (Verb) "Rock outcrops in the pasture."

**Daylight** (slang) "exposed to the light of day". A discontinuity in soil or rock creating a potential for slope failure may be visible or "daylight" in the face of a slope.

**Saprolite** is similar in meaning to the term residuum. Saprolite is discredited for use in technical reports because of a lack of a numeric strength-quantification. Saprolite can mean any residual material short of fresh rock. Unless the above definition for bedrock is adopted, (page 1), technical reports should not use the term **bedrock** for the same reasoning. Currently, the term pre-supposes knowledge of a structure's weight and implies no strength defects in the designated material about to carry that load. **Overburden**, a coal industry term describing rock over a coal seam, is discredited for a similar ambiguity.

The use of the term "soft rock" meaning residual soil, decomposed rock, or weathered rock is discredited. Greenstone composed of talc is a soft rock; talc is softer than a fingernail. Serpentine composed of asbestos is a soft rock; asbestos crystal form soft fibers. These and other rock species are composed of soft minerals, some minerals have pronounced cleavages, and some rocks have weak particle contacts or matrixes. Soil is not soft rock.

The use of the term "groundwater" and "water table" should be eliminated in technical reports. Capillary water is 'water in the ground'; unsaturated water that may not be associated with a water table. While *the* water table is expected near a creek's elevation, **standing water** will more accurately express conditions in a temporary bore hole. Aquifers, hydraulic heads, and water tables are properly investigated over time only with the installation of constructed observation wells.

A rock is a fragment composed of one or more minerals, sometimes containing fossils. A **fossil** is a *trace of life* preserved in rock or sediments. A trace of life has to be about 10,000 years old or older to be termed a fossil, otherwise it is considered "recent".





# Up Coming Events

# October 2010

## Shows and Trips

**October 23<sup>rd</sup>**- Field Trip- This will be our Dixie Mineral trip to Kyanite Mining near Farmville, VA. Trip details on pages 4-5.

**October 30<sup>th</sup>**- Annual Virginia Tech mineral sale and open house. This will be a club field trip also, details on pages 5-6.

**November 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>**- **19<sup>th</sup>** annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Northern VA Mineral Club- co-sponsored by GMU's Dept. of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Earth Sciences. George Mason University Student Union Bldg II, Rte 123 & Braddock Rd, Fairfax, VA, Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-4. Website: [www.novaminalclub.org](http://www.novaminalclub.org)

**November 26 thru 28** Roanoke Valley Gem and Mineral Show- Salem Civic Center, Salem, VA. Friday 2-7; Saturday 10-6; Sunday noon to 5. The Lynchburg Gem and Mineral Society will be actively participating and we will need the help of many members. Please come out and show your club support.



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 <i>Meeting Auction 7:00 PM</i>	21	22	23 <b>OUR DMC TRIP</b>
24	25	26	27 <i>Woolleys Workshop 7:00 PM</i>	28	29	30 <b>VT Field Trip</b>
31 <i>Halloween</i>						





31st Annual  
**Roanoke Valley Mineral  
 & Gem Show**  
 Salem Civic Center • 1001 Boulevard – Salem, VA





**Friday – November 26, 2010**  
 2:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.  
**Saturday – November 27, 2010**  
 10:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.  
**Sunday – November 28, 2010**  
 Noon – 5:00 P.M.

**Admission = \$3.00, Children under age 16 = Free**

Free Identification of Stones	Geodes Cutting
Pearl Strands	Jewelry & Jewelry Supplies
Mineral Specimens	Wire Wrapping & Sculpture
Fossils	Displays by club members

**LARGE FLUORESCENT MINERALS DISPLAY**  
 HOURLY DOOR PRIZE DRAWING  
**GRAND PRIZE – A 14K GOLD SAPPHIRE RING**  
 YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT TO WIN THE GRAND PRIZE!!!  
 SPONSORED BY ROANOKE VALLEY MINERAL AND GEM SOCIETY

CLUB MEETINGS – 2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH – LECTURE HALL IN  
 SCIENCE MUSEUM OF WESTERN VIRGINIA – CENTER IN THE SQUARE – ROANOKE, VA

# Volunteers!



This show is a great opportunity for our club to show off our sluice and fluorescent display to other rock and mineral enthusiasts. We will have our sluice set up and again be responsible for the fluorescent mineral display. We will need many volunteers over the three days of the show. Please consider coming to help- a little or a lot, all help is needed and appreciated.

**A Safety Note About Applying Lessons Learned** by Owen Martin, AFMS Safety Chair  
 Reprinted from the October 2010 Issue of the AFMS Newsletter

Last month I wrote an article about hunting for fossils in a creek that was a few feet above normal levels and the associated safety issues that I encountered.

So having received a little grief from the reading audience my friend Chase committed to a follow up trip a couple of weeks ago. We both had a Friday off coming up so we set the date. Preparations, safety and otherwise were made well in advance and as the week started it looked like we were all set.

And then Hurricane Alex formed off the Yucatan and threatened everything!

The next couple of days were filled with phone calls, watching weather radar and monitoring river levels on-line. After much discussion on Thursday night we decided that the weather looked clear enough that we would still go. Friday morning the weather looked like it had turned a little on us, and the radar showed "green" for rain most of the way to our spot.

Over the years I've walked several miles of the creek in question and have a good feel for the extent of the drainage basin. It looked like it had not received any rain from Alex as of yet.  
*Continued on next page*

19th Annual Richmond Gem & Mineral Society

# 2010 Fall Rock Swap

**Saturday, November 13, 2010**

**9am to 3pm**  
Set Up available at 7 am

**FREE Admission!**

**Ridge Baptist Church meeting hall**  
(building on west side of church – rear of parking lot)  
**1515 Eastridge Road**  
Richmond, VA

**Swappers: Please label your specimens!**

To help defray costs, Swappers will be asked to donate at least one quality specimen (no larger than fist-sized) to be auctioned at future RGMS functions.

RGMS will provide indoor tables (6-8')  
– limit of one per person –  
– first come, first served –  
(no reservations)

You are welcome to bring your own table(s) and set up in the grassy area beside the meeting hall.

**Driving Directions:**  
North or South of Richmond  
Use I-95 to Exit 79 to I-64 West. Take Exit 181A (South) to Parham Road. Proceed south on Parham about 1.5 miles and turn Left onto Eastridge Road. The church is about 400 feet down, on your Right. There is ample (free) parking in front of the meeting hall.

**minerals, gems fossils, shells lapidary specimens**

**Novice or Expert**  
All are welcome to swap or purchase

**For more info:**  
(Swap Chairman)  
Murray Rosenberg: 804-740-0019  
(Club President)  
Carl Miller: 804-310-8762  
Or email:  
RGMS\_info@yahoo.com




## Safety... cont from pg. 9

Using my blackberry phone I was able to monitor the radar, too, and with the exception of a few sprinkles it looked OK. But doubt did creep strongly into our minds as it rained the entire drive up.

Upon arrival at the parking area it was raining, but we committed to getting wet and packed up our gear to hike the 500 yards to the creek. After all, we had driven 3 ours to get there so we might as well check it out.

Amazingly, when we got to the creek and looked down there was NO high water in it. It was still drizzling, but things were looking up. We decided that we would keep a sharp eye on any rain clouds that were upstream and planned our decent into the creek bed. This is where Chase's better gear was a key to success. He hammered in a steel spike and tied a rope to it so that we could safely get down the wet slope into the creek bed. The last time I was here the bank was dry, but the landing if I

had slipped would have put me in 4-5 feet of water. What a difference a few weeks made!

This time around we did have access to the entire cut bank so that made hunting a lot easier. The rain did continue to come down and quite heavily for short periods of time so we made sure that we had an easy route to high ground if the water level started to come up rapidly, but it never did and about an hour later the rain finally stopped and so did Alex's efforts to stop our hunt! We were soaked from the rain, but happy, and Chase's gear made it easy to get out of the creek safely with all our finds.

Interestingly I know several people who were out hunting in different parts of Texas that weekend and once they committed to getting wet all seemed to have productive hunting trips. Watching the weather was key as some of them had to revert to secondary sites, but that seemed to work out.

For us, being prepared with safety lines, food gloves and boots, on-line radar access, a 4X4 and the helping hands of a hunting buddy, all helped to deliver a successful and SAFE fossil hunting trip.

## Presidents Message: *continued from page 1*

Gem & Mineral Show. This is a three-day show from Friday November 26<sup>th</sup> thru Sunday November the 28<sup>th</sup>. To have a successful show the Club needs a good number of volunteers to help in anyway that you can. In past years this has been a great show with all kinds of crystals, minerals and jewelry offered at good prices. It is a good opportunity to add a beautiful specimen to your personal collection and have fun helping out the Club at the same time by putting in a few hours in the sales booth or fluorescent mineral display room.

We have had several club workshops in the past few weeks and I think we have enough Gem Trees, Bookends, Rock Candles and Gem & Mineral bags made up to take us through the upcoming Festivals. I would like to thank all those that have donated their time and talent to make all of this happen. I feel we can be proud of all the GMSL has to offer. I hope to see you all at the October 20<sup>th</sup> Auction Meeting. **Meeting Minutes...** *continued from page 2*

**Keep Looking Down,  
John Haskins**

## September Meeting Minutes

*Continued from page 2*

This IT was discussed and Jack Curtin made a motion; Nona Haskins seconded. The vote was carried. Suggested specimen donations from members were mica, calcite, pyrite, fairy stones, unakite, malachite, Kyanite, blue quartz and amazonite. If you have any surplus of these or other specimens please consider donating some to the club.

**Minutes submitted by  
Brenda Glass, Secretary**

## From the First VP:

*continued from page 1*

all sorts of stuff for the auction. Everything from canned pears, to afghans, and Monopoly games. Now the club has asked us to donate only rock or rock related things such as tools, buckets, display cases, etc. Your imagination might qualify some rather unusual items using this reasoning. Looking forward to the auction, hope to see you there. It is loads of fun but, please be forewarned that it can be morbid too. Morbid: In an auction, when someone offers a bigger amount.

Cheers ya'll'

Jack

## Sunshine News



If you know of any "Sunshine News," please contact the editor so we may send out well wishes or congratulations.

## 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



Happy Halloween

### Websites to visit:

<http://www.toteshows.com/morefield.html> (pictures and information on the Morefield Mine in Amelia County, VA)

<http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/episode/into-the-lost-crystal-caves-4636/Overview#tab-Overview#ixzz10Pn29f9W> (National Geographic web page featuring the giant crystal caves)

Lynchburg Gem and Mineral Society:

[www.lynchburgrockclub.org](http://www.lynchburgrockclub.org)

The SFMS Newsletter, the Eastern Federation Newsletter, and the AFMS Newsletters are available for all members to read on line at the Federation Websites:

[www.amfed.org/sfms](http://www.amfed.org/sfms), [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org) and [www.amfed.org/efmsl](http://www.amfed.org/efmsl)

**Hobby Related Newsletters** are available free of charge by emailing the editors below. Both are great sources of information and worth checking out.

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