

GEM & MINERAL JOURNAL

Official Monthly
Publication of the Gem &
Mineral Society of
Lynchburg, VA, Inc
www.lynnchburgrockclub.org

MARCH 2017

VOLUME 26~ ISSUE 3

President's Message:

Hi All,

It has been over 12 years since I have had to write a newsletter article. Even though I have not been an active part of the club I have never lost the desire to be a rock hound. As I travel with work I look for places to collect and to meet local collectors. As you are reading this I am either in Florida or North Carolina at a Nuclear power plant for work. I hope to be back by May but I will have to wait and see. In Florida I found a place selling calcified sea shells and one vendor at a flea market selling rock specimens. The number of people that collect has dropped over the past few years but there are

still rock hounds out there. I have been in contact with Natalie and have to say that I am excited about what she has planned for the club meetings. Please support her as I know that the club will continue to be a great place to share time with like-minded people. We have discussed ways that we can make the club stronger and more enjoyable and we need you your help to make it all happen. That is all that I have this time and I hope to be back soon.

As John ended-keep looking down,
Steve

From the First V.P.

Well, March certianly has come in like a Lion, so lets hope it goes out like a lamb, as the saying goes. I don't know about you but I sure am ready for an early spring-our favorite collecting time of the year!

Our program for this month will be Show/ Swap/ Sell, and will feature club members and a guest who have reserved their spot to help make this a success. Come on out to the meeting on Wednesday, March 15th and see what each has to offer, I bet you will find something you just can't live without.

Think Spring...
Natalie

The Following members and one guest have confirmed that they will be set up for the March meeting program Swap>Show/Sell:

Dave Callahan

Dave Woolley

Feather Stein

Bob & Mary McIntire

Phil Durston

Joseph Scavens

Thom Noble

We could add up to 3 more tables, but space must be reserved. First come, first served. Fee is \$10.00 and will go into the club treasury. Whatever you sell is your profit. If you would like to join the "sellers" please email me and I will let you know if we still have space available. <natalie@sterlingflame.com>

February Meeting Minutes

Meeting: Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2017

Attendance: 37 members

Hospitality: Greg and Sharon Lester hosted tonight's meeting, Eric and Pam Routon will host the March meeting.

On Time Drawing Winners: Donna Spencer, Mary McIntire, Wayne McIntyre, Natalie Darling, Bill Livingston, Gabby Routon, Rodger Linkenhoker, Marsha Engelstad, Greg Lester, Nona Haskins, Brenda Finch, Steve Gordon, Jack Curtin and Hans Schubert.

50/50 drawing winner – Dave Callahan

President - John Haskins- Received correspondence about Uncle Billy's Day asking if club is going to participate in the June 2017 event. Gave this information to incoming officers.

Dave Woolley reminded all of the Franklin New Jersey fluorescent mineral show in April.

New Business: Ballots were disturbed for election of Treasurer and two member at large positions. T-Shirt orders will be taken through our March 15, 2017 meeting.

Natalie Darling asked about member interest in "purchasing" a sellers table at next month's meeting; There was a signup sheet to reserve. Only 10 tables available for rental due to limited space. This will be part of our program.

There will be a Board meeting on March 1, 2017 at 7 pm at Miller Center and open to all club members.

Results from Voting announced as Treasurer- Cindy Mitchell and Members at Large will be Eric Routon and Johnnie Knight.

First VP: Jack Curtin- Announced our program tonight will be the remainder of the Video from last month on Gems and Minerals.

Second V.P. Dave Callahan – Upcoming field trips: Announced Upcoming fieldtrips:
February 18th- field trip to JMU.
March 25th – Fauber Mine
Directions to club workshops are available and anyone interested in flint knapping see Dave for details.
Treasurer: Frank Midkiff- gave the treasury report, the current balance is \$7200.63

Program: Video

Warren Darling - provided items for the Silent Auction tonight.

Minutes submitted by Linda Noble, Secretary

2017 ELECTED OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - Steve Gordon
(434) 929-1524
stevegordon@comcast.net

First Vice President
Natalie Darling
434-941-1899
natalie@sterlingflame.com

Second Vice President
David Callahan
(540) 297-1853
DBCALL1@aol.com

Secretary
Linda Noble
(434) 332-4869
linda-noble@hughes.net

Editor - Warren Darling
(434) 941-3784
darlingwarren@yahoo.com

Treasurer - Cindy Mitchell
(434) 283-3884
mitchell99@embarqmail.com

Members At Large-
Johnny Knight
Eric Routon

COMMITTEE CHAIR PERSONS:

Field Trips– David Callahan
Hospitality– Monthly Volunteers
News Articles– Natalie Darling
Silent Auction– Warren Darling
Swap for Rocks– Warren Darling
Website– Casper Voogt
Workshops– Dave Callahan
FRA Adult Liaison– OPEN
Membership– Thom Noble

PROGRAMS

For our February 15, 2017 club meeting we enjoyed a video provided by Jack Curtin. The March 15, 2017 program will GMSL Show and Sell. We currently have 7 confirmed tables of hobby related items that will be offered. Please come out and support your fellow club members and enjoy the opportunity to take home some treasures.

Bench Tips By Brad Smith

See all Brad's jewelry books at
Amazon.com/author/BradfordSmith

BEZEL CLOSER

A bezel closer is a steel punch that makes quick work out of pushing the metal down over a round stone and burnishing it. The working end is a concave cavity that fits over your bezel or prong setting and is pushed and twisted to capture the stone. Sets can be purchased but are expensive and contain many sizes you will probably never use. If all you need is one or two sizes, here's how you can make them yourself.

Find a good quality, round steel rod a little larger in diameter than your bezel cup or prong setting. Cut a 5 inch length. File both ends flat. Locate the center of one end, center punch a divot, and drill a small pilot hole about 5 mm deep. Remember to use a little oil as lubricant when cutting steel.

Select a ball bur a bit smaller than the steel rod but slightly larger than the bezel. Enlarge the pilot hole to a full hemispherical cavity. Test for proper fit with your bezel. Bezel should first contact the cavity about a third of the way in. When the size is correct, polish the cavity using Zam on a length of chopstick in your flexshaft. If the tool is not polished, it will leave scratches on your bezel or prongs.

When using the tool, the first step is to capture the stone correctly. I usually work by hand and push the punch straight down over the bezel or prongs. This causes the metal to start bending over the stone. Next I inspect with a lens to be sure the stone is staying level. This is repeated until the stone is seated on its bearing and can't move anymore.

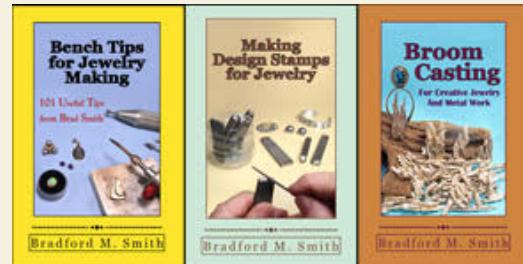
Next you want to force the metal down onto the stone uniformly all the way around. While this can be done by hand, I often gently tap the punch with a hammer. Finally, burnish the bezel by twisting the punch around.

BENCH SHEARS

When cutting sheet metal, it's quicker and easier to use a set of shop shears as compared with using a hand saw. The cut is not as precise, but many times you don't need that. Shears will easily cut up to 24 gauge sheet, and some will cut 22 or even 20 gauge.

Current prices for shears run from \$13 - \$22 in jewelry catalogs, and the Joyce Chen scissors recommended on some jewelry blogs run more than \$20. But we found a cheaper alternative at the 99 Cent Store - some gardening utility scissors that were only \$1.07

I buy a half dozen of them at a time for use in my jewelry classes. They're great for cutting bezels, trimming around a bezel cup and cutting a piece off a larger sheet.



FIELD TRIP REPORT...

February field trip to J.M.U.

Contact Information
for Field Trips
David Callahan,
Field Trip Chairman
Home phone: 540-297-1853

JMU Field Trip 2017-

We had a tremendous turnout of approximately 60 for our final trip to James Madison University. Dr. Kearns will retire this year and the Geology Department will be moved back to Miller Hall on the main campus. The Museum will be moved later to another building, yet to be built as I understand. Dr. Kearns will continue overseeing the museum as professor emeritus but will have no duties in the Geology Department.

Our group was by far the largest of any of the area clubs attending this final annual open-house so he saved back some special minerals and books just for our sale. Many of these were chosen from his personal collection.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and these events will truly be missed. What the future availability of trips to J.M.U. is still undetermined.

After leaving J.M.U. at noon, several of us took a side trip across the mountain to the South River near Standardsville for some pretty rock collecting. We did find some pretty rock and it will make some beautiful items to sell at our events. The breccia we find there is from the Catoctin formation and is beautiful. The black metabasalt, green epidote, white quarts and red jasper combination are stunning when cut and polished.

The weather was beautiful this day and enjoyed by all.

It is usually cold and windy at the creek in February and that makes for some really miserable collecting. What a way to start the season this year.

Photos submitted by Linda Noble



Up Coming Field Trips

**Sign-up required, call me, email me or
sign-up at the meeting—
parking space is limited to 12 cars.**

SPECIAL NOTE: At this date, 3-1-17, we have reached the allotted 12 car parking limit. If others sign up we may need to car pool. We will determine that at the Hardee's meeting spot Saturday morning. Please do not just show up at the site without first letting me know several days in advance..... Thank you

MEETING TIME AND PLACE: We will meet in Amherst, VA, Saturday morning, at the Hardee's Restaurant (114 Ambriar Plaza) on US 29 business no later than 8:30 A.M. We will decide if we need to carpool. We can leave cars here if needed. **We will depart from there promptly 8:45 A.M.**

From Lynchburg and Roanoke, follow US Rt. 460 east / US 29 north by-pass several miles east of Lynchburg. Take the new US Rt. 29 north by-pass across the James River and proceed north to the Amherst US 29 business exit. The Hardee's is in the Ambriar Shopping Center at this exit. Come early and have a bite to eat. We can determine if carpooling is necessary and leave any cars here. From this point, it should take about 45 minutes to arrive at the parking area along Rt. 6. Be sure that you are fueled up and ready to leave by 8:45 A.M. If you are coming from the north, the US 29 business exit will be about 2 miles south of the US 60 exit. If you live in Madison Heights, it might be closer to just follow US 29 business to Amherst. The Hardee's will be on your left at the new US 29 bypass interchange, just before you arrive at the town of Amherst.

Dress for the weather that day and be sure to bring food, water, bug spray and warm clothing. Wear boots, gloves, long pants and safety glasses. Hard hats will not be required.

Due to the restricted parking along Route 6, we must limit attendance to 10 or 12 cars maximum. Only those that call to reserve your place or sign up at the meeting will be allowed to attend. Car-pooling is recommended. We will arrive at a small parking area at the intersection of Rt. 29 North and Rt. 6 East about 9:30AM. We can leave some cars here if necessary and pick up those that will meet us here.

March Field Trip
COMBINED MINERAL COLLECTING FIELD TRIP
THE GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY OF LYNCHBURG, VA,
THE ROANOKE VALLEY MINERAL AND GEM SOCIETY,
Saturday, March 25, 2017
OLD FABER MINE, ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA.

THE TRIP: I have received special permission from the landowner and he has some rules that must be obeyed. NO SMOKING (extremely dry and a high fire hazard could exist). Keep away from the 3 open shafts and collect only geologic specimens, not historic pieces, and leave NO TRASH. This is a beautiful, classic and historic site and the owner is graciously allowing us to collect here on this day. There are NO facilities at this site or in the immediate area. If you have any physical or medical limitations, this is probably a trip you should not attend. Cell phone service is spotty at best and medical help is hours away.

The mine is about 1.5 miles (a good 45 minute walk) along a gated, mostly level, rutted dirt road. Past logging in the area has made the road rough and possibly muddy in places. Since we must walk in and out, and galena is very heavy, you might want to bring a wagon, hand truck or at the least a good back pack. Good walking shoes are a must and be sure to bring plenty of water and snacks. You'll also need safety glasses, hammers, chisel, and a tool to scratch thru the dirt, overburden and turn over rocks, buckets or bags with newspaper to wrap your delicate specimens. Be watchful where you put your hands and feet as copper heads and rattle snakes are in the area.

COLLECTING: Expect to find **galena** (lead), **sphalerite** (zinc) and **fluorite** (white and purple). Other minerals that exist there are **chalcopyrite**, **pyrite**, **pyrrhotite**, **magnetite**, **quartz**, **calcite**, **cerussite**, **chalcanthite**, **pyromorphite**, **kaolinite**, **azurite**, **chlorite** and **hydrozincite**. Many of these are fluorescent under ultraviolet lamp.

HISTORY: The mine was discovered in 1849, and operated off and on by the Confederates during the Civil War producing an excess 7,000 pounds of lead, but abandoned when General Sherman crossed the Blue Ridge at Rockfish Gap. In 1905, it was again opened for lead and zinc but closed about 1919. Several other unsuccessful attempts to reopen the mine were short-lived. The 3 shafts are now fully choked, caved and the audit reopened in 1958 is now caved. A dirt, leaf and

Continued on next page

Field Trips...continued from page 5

forest clutter covered dump still exists and will still yield beautiful specimens after much searching and digging.

We must arrive and walk in together, but you may leave any time you want and walk out by yourself.
This is a unique collecting site and we are fortunate to have it in our area. The landowner is willing to share it with us only because we always obtain permission, stay safe, obey his rules and never destroy or trash his property. This is the only reason we are allowed access

to his land.

CONTACT: David Callahan, Field Trip Chairman. The Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA, Inc. and The Roanoke Valley Mineral and Gem Society, Inc. Web site: www.lynnburgrockclub.org
 E-mail dbcall1@aol.com Phone [540-297-1853](tel:540-297-1853) Cell [540-874-5201](tel:540-874-5201) (let them ring and leave a message if I do not answer please)



Dixie Mineral Council Field Trips

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc



**The Friendly Federation - Founded in 1976 to serve
 DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee
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**An Official Field Trip of the Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society (Florence, MS)
 (HOST)**

**An Official Field Trip of the GMSL and RVMGS
 Saturday, March 25, 2017
 Hammett Gravel Pit
 Redwood, Mississippi**

Meet no later than 8:00 am Central Time

Depart meeting site at 8:15 am Central Time in caravan
 Collect approximately 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Attendance Limited to 80 People

Registration Required by March 22

IMPORTANT !!! Note the attendance limit. Members planning to attend this trip **must** register with **Rosina Echols**, not their club's field trip chair and not the DMC coordinator. Here is Rosina's contact information: [601-825-5752](tel:601-825-5752) or rosiniae@bellsouth.net Registered attendees will receive confirmation via email. **If you have not registered with Rosina, you have not registered.**

TRIP: This is an active gravel pit producing sand and gravel for industries. The site has igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks. The hunt site includes "oversize" rocks culled from commercial gravel. Citronelle gravel is mined from a layer 40 feet below Ice Age loess soil. The abundance of agate, coral and other fossils made this site a favorite last year.

COLLECTING: Expect to find agates, coral and other fossils, geodes, chunks of petrified wood and Sioux quartzite. A few unusual finds included a magnificent

Petoskey stone and a piece of St. Francois Mountain rhyolite.

BRING: We'll hunt around and on tall piles of gravel. Bring a bucket, bag or backpack for collecting as you climb on the gravel piles. A walking staff is helpful but not necessary. Wear close-toed shoes to protect feet. If you need ankle support, wear hiking boots. An extra pair of "muck" boots might be helpful if there is mud. Wear clothes that you won't be afraid to get dirty and bring a change of clothes. Weather may be cold and/or windy. Bring a coat and dress in layers. Expect cold mornings and warm afternoons. If you have allergies or require medication, please bring your medication. Bring water, snacks and drinks. Pack a lunch if you expect to stay until 2 p.m. Bring gloves, hat, sunglasses, sunscreen and a chair.

REQUIREMENTS: The collecting area will be limited to specific gravel piles that will be announced on site. Participants must stay off equipment, away from slopes adjacent to ponds, out of ponds and away from loess walls.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: We will not park close to the hunt piles. Unless you are very selective, you will make multiple trips to your auto to deposit your finds to avoid potential injury. Footing on the gravel piles can be tricky. People who have stability issues should stay at the bottom of the gravel piles. It will still be good hunting. Walking and digging on steep slopes can lead to slides.

Continued on next page

Field Trips...continued from page 5

Care must be taken when around the ponds. Stay away from the edge of rock piles against the ponds. This is a remote area and there will be little or no cell phone reception.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: Registration deadline is Wednesday, March 22. Please let us know if you will attend and the best way to contact you. In case of bad weather or weather damage to the site, we might have to cancel. Spring in Mississippi can bring heavy rain, sleet, or snow as well as crisp, breezy or wonderfully warm weather. Contact: Rosina Echols: [601-825-5752](tel:601-825-5752) or rosinae@bellsouth.net.

CHILDREN: Children are allowed - minimum age 8 years. Adult supervision is required at all times. Children may not throw rocks or run at the site, especially on the gravel piles. Care should be taken when around the ponds. No climbing on equipment is allowed.

PETS: No pets are allowed.

FACILITIES: No stores or facilities are close to the collecting site. A portable toilet will be on the site. At the meeting place before the convoy goes to the site, there will be drinks, snacks, some prepared breakfast/lunch food items, and restrooms.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The meeting place is nearly midway between Vicksburg and Jackson, Mississippi. Hotels and restaurants are available in both locations. If you would prefer to stay in the Jackson area, there are a variety of hotels and restaurants available at Exit 48 (Pearl). The Pearl location is a nice area. Vicksburg is a historical area with casinos.

Attendees are invited to attend the MGMS monthly program meeting on Friday, March 24. Our meetings are held at the MGMS Lapidary School, 176 Tazan Avenue, Florence. (Pearl is approximately 10 miles from the MGMS Lapidary School.) MGMS monthly program meetings start at 7:30 p.m.; gathering begins around 7:00. Although the address is Florence, the School is located in a residential area just south of Richland. Detailed directions to the MGMS Lapidary School can be found on the MGMS website - www.missgems.org.

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:

We will meet at 8:00 a.m. Central Time at the Chevron Truck Stop on the south side of I-20 at Exit 27 (Bolton exit). This is west of Jackson and Clinton / east of Vicksburg. Please sign in when you arrive. Prior to departure, there will be a short discussion of the plans for the day. We will leave the truck stop at 8:15 a.m. We will drive approximately 10 minutes west on I-20, then travel on gravel roads to the hunt site for about 30 minutes. If you have trouble, call Trip Leader David Kraft, [601-613-7360](tel:601-613-7360).

The Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA. Inc. www.lynnburgrockclub.org

CONTACT:

Registration Contact: Rosina Echols — [601-825-5752](tel:601-825-5752) or rosinae@bellsouth.net

Trip Leader: David Kraft — [601-613-7360](tel:601-613-7360) or david@truckservicesms.com

SUPER DIGGG

Yes, we're here and getting ready!

2017 Super Dig

Saturday April 29th

Some of you have already contacted us, asking if the registration has opened yet.

(SuperDig.com)

It's anticipated that the registration will be open as of March 1st -- that will give almost two months for you to get registered ... HOWEVER, this year early registrations will have a distinct advantage -- more on that in the next TripMaster letter ...

For now, please just be patient! Remember that everyone working on this annual project are volunteers who have their own lives to live, as well as preparing the Super Digg.

To be fair for everyone, registration will not become active until MIDNIGHT, beginning of Saturday March 4th. This way, those who work during the week and even those who go out on a date Friday evening can stay up to midnight and get a chance to be among the first to register.

When each Premium Session is filled (with 75 registrants) a list will be posted on the website of those who are assigned to that Session.

Watch for future TripMaster Letters -- and be sure they don't go into your 'spam folder' in the email !

Because many things have changed since last year, we will be updating the web site from time to time. Please review all the material on the website carefully and occasionally -- any un-answered questions can be sent to TripMaster@SuperDig.com

There is additional information available, if interested please visit the website above, or email tripmaster@superdig.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 25- GMSL Field Trip to the Faber Mine. See page 5 or contact David Callahan for details.

May 13- Annual Earth Science Show & Sale sponsored by the Rock & Mineral Club of Lower Bucks Co. PA. Christ United Methodist Church, 501 Wistar Rd.; Fairless Hills, PA. Contact: ebrosiusrock@aol.com

May 13- Annual "Fossil Fest" sponsored by the Finger Lakes Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show. Greater Canandaigua Civic Center, 250 N. Bloomingfield Rd; Canandaigua, NY. Contact minerals@icloud.com or gmfc@netzero.net

May 26-28- Treasures of the Earth Gem, Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry and Bead Show, Salem Civic Center, Salem VA. www.toteshows.com for details.

June 23-25- Treasures of the Earth Gem, Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry and Bead Show, Salem Civic Center, Salem VA. www.toteshows.com for details.

March 2017

| SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THURS | FRI | SAT |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|------|----------------------|-------|---|--------------------------|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 Callahans Workshop |
| 12 Daylight Savings Time Begins | 13 | 14 | 15 Meeting 7-9 PM | 16 | 17  | 18 |
| 19 | 20 First Day of Spring | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Field Trip |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

REMINDER...

Club workshops are held on the second Saturday of each month at Dave Callahan's home. Workshops are open to members only, and all members are encouraged to attend when possible.

There will be some discussion at this months meeting about possibly offering other days for the workshops also.

This is a great learning & fellowship opportunity, as well as a way to contribute to your club. You can "learn" while helping to fabricate items for sale at our fall festival, then use the equipment available to complete your own personal pieces.

Please consider coming out, regardless of your level of experience. All help is needed and appreciated!



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting: March 1, 2017 at 7 p.m.

Attendees: Eric Routon, Thom Noble, Linda Noble, Dave Callahan, Warren Darling, Natalie Darling, Johnnie Knight, Siglinde Allbeck.

Group discussed Uncle Billy's Day participation in June 2017. It was determined there would be no cost to club other than entry fee as we have enough inventory for sluice and geode. A vote and sign up schedule will be presented to all members at next meeting.

Johnnie suggested a wheel of prizes and will present this project at a later meeting for approval.

Natalie asked all to be thinking of a program the club could present to the kids in July or August at Fairview Center as part of our agreement with Parks and Recreation.

It was decided a plaque for each of the exiting officers would be purchased and presented. President Steve Gordon would like to do the presentation, so this will be done later this spring as his schedule allows.

There will be 7 tables at the March Show and Sale offering members a chance purchase and sell items. Table Rental will be collected at beginning of meeting.

Officer term will be discussed and decided at future board meetings.

A finance committee consisting of 4 club members plus Club President will be formed to establish a budget of expense spending.

Purposing a spreadsheet be made available at all club meetings to show how club monies are spent.

Group was ask to come up with ideas for Club programs or Speakers and some suggestion were Safety/First Aid Class, Mineral Identification Night, Spring and Autumn Auctions, Steve Lenhart and Dave Young as possible guest speakers.

Fieldtrip suggestions of Museum of Natural History in Raleigh NC, Roanoke Museum of Science and fossil site in West Virginia.

Final offer of Tshirt order will be announced at March meeting.

Welcome New Members:

David Ball from
Dillwyn VA

Charles Hall from
Charlottesville VA

Charles & Doris
Legg from
Huntington, WV

John & Pat
McCallum from
Monroe, VA

Michael, Mirna
& Logan
Maningas from
Lynchburg, VA





MARCH 2017

GEM & MINERAL JOURNAL

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Safety Matters, A Case For Attitude

By Ellery Borow, EFMLS Safety Chair

Reprinted from March 2017 EFMLS News

I have an embarrassing story to tell. I am neither proud of, nor happy about relating the story, but here we go. Perhaps you can learn from my mistakes.

Several years ago I was persuading a rock up and out of a hole. The rock was damp and mostly covered with mud. The embarrassing part of the story is that as the rock was protesting, yet grudgingly moving up- ward, I hurriedly took off my gloves, and with bare hands finished wrestling the rock out of the hole.

Yes I, a huge advocate of safety took off my gloves to get a better grip to maneuver the stone. Surely you can see my dilemma and embarrassment! What I should have done was to select and work with the proper gloves before beginning the procedure of moving that rock.

Safety is an attitude. Safety should be automatic. When I didn't do the right thing, I felt embarrassed. No one saw my mistake, but I know I made it. I'm not going to beat myself up for having made it, but it does call to mind that none of us is perfect, errors occur, but, if attitude is any indication, I felt bad about making a safety mistake.

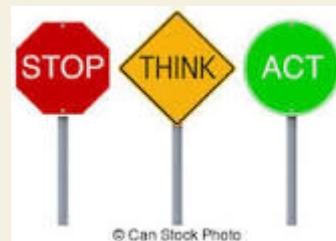
So what are the lessons to be learned here? Make safety automatic. Do give safety all the additional thought necessary to make everything one does - safe.

There are many types of gloves - select the proper ones for the task.

I had initially put on work gloves that protected by fingers, but when damp with mud, had not provided sufficient gripping power. Once the proper gloves have been selected, wear them! There are gloves for water protection on, hammer handle shock protection, cushioned for chisel holding, for better gripping power, for permitting greater dexterity, and for general purpose uses.

Gloves come in different sizes. Guys with small hands take note: if you can't find a man's glove in a small size, then use a woman's glove. Fit is important and no one will know unless you select the frilly pink polka-dot ones. There are gloves that are heavy, thin, leather, cotton, canvas, synthetic, rubber tipped or dotted for gripping power, cut resistant, armored, fluorescent colored, cuffed, and on and on. Gloves come in a variety of prices. They are often cheap enough to have extra pairs - one for each task at hand - if you will pardon the pun.

Safety as an attitude is important. It is something we can do something about. Here is a great quote to keep in mind by Austrian analyst Viktor Frankl: "The last of human freedoms is to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances."



© Can Stock Photo

Sunshine News



Since our last newsletter, we have learned of the passing of long time Lynchburg and Roanoke Club member Lloyd Watson. Please keep The Watson family in your thoughts and prayers. Former Treasurer Franklin Midkiff also continues to struggle with ongoing health issues, so please keep Jean and Franklin in your thoughts and prayers also.

If you know of any "sunshine" news, please email the editor darlingwarren@yahoo.com and we will be sure to include the information here.

The Gem Lapidary and Mineral Society of Montgomery County



We're having an AUCTION!



A large quantity of lapidary equipment, lapidary supplies, cutting material and slabs. There are many flats of rough cutting material and slabs that will be auctioned off.

Open to all – members and non-members, dealers. Please join us.

When: Saturday May 6 (rain date Sunday May 7)

10:00am auction preview

11:00am live auction starts

note: we are unable to accept credit cards

Where: 11109 Rosemont Drive, Rockville, MD (near Tuckerman Lane and Old Georgetown Road)

For updated information and rain date notifications please see the GLMSMC facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/984241208329511/>
Contact Dave at dht444@yahoo.com if you have any questions.

The material includes: Slabs and Cutting Rough.

The equipment includes: Slab Saw, Trim saws, tumblers, and Cabochon machines

Lapidary material includes: Petrified wood, Jade, Lace agate, turritella agate, other agates and jaspers



GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY OF LYNCHBURG, VA, INC.

WWW.LYNCHBURGROCKCLUB.ORG

Warren Darling, Editor
211 Chesterfield Rd.
Lynchburg, VA 24502



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



Lynchburg Rock Raiders is the official Future Rockhounds of America association of the The Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA, Inc.



MEETING LOCATION

DIRECTIONS: Fairview Center;
3621 Campbell Ave., Lynchburg, VA 24501
434-847-1751~ From Route 29 expressway or Route 460, take the Campbell Avenue Exit. Follow Campbell Ave. to 3621, which is across the street from a Citgo Gas Station. There is a fence around the building and parking on both streets running along the sides of the property as well as a lot in the back. We will be looking for you!