



March Newsletter

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**Meeting at the
715 Moose Lodge Hall
2307 Lakeside Dr.
Lynchburg, VA 24501
3rd Tuesday of the month
7:00 pm until 9:00 pm.**

**Wintery weather meetings
schedule is if the Lynchburg
schools are down for
weather then the meeting is
cancelled**

**Workshop is the 2nd Saturday
of the month.**

President's Meanderings:

By James Tomlin

Hello Everyone,

The last meeting we had was our first over at the 715 Moose Lodge and it was fantastic! Everyone on staff was very friendly and accommodating. The presentation on 3D minerals was very neat to see and added a new way of seeing minerals that we may never come across normally. We presented Dave Callahan with a very deserving award for all of his endeavors and precious time he has given the club. I am very excited about our new meeting place and the possibilities that will ensue with our new friends.

I have recently had a loss in my family so things have been a bit hard. Going through personal effects was a bitter sweet process. So many fond memories come rushing to you. One thing that was a bonding moment even after death, I see a secret hidden treasure of rocks that were collected over the years. We had never spoken of rock collecting but there it was a secret Rockhounds stash of minerals. I will always cherish that find of a common interest and love.

I look forward to seeing you all soon,

Your Fellow Rockhound,

James Tomlin

President Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg

First Vice President

Virginia is the best commonwealth to find rocks and minerals. Virginia is terrific. Believe me. Ask anyone. They all know. Everyone agrees. For March, give honest, sincere appreciation for all those around us.



Cheers Steve Boylan

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Eric Routon

Youth Out Reach

Programs for 2022

FEBRUARY MEETING

A big thank you to Boris Staroska for showing us stereoscopic photography in mineralogy. It was fun.

MARCH MEETING

Collectors Night - All club members are invited to share your collection with other members. Tables will be set up. Bring your collection of minerals and rock, crafts, gem trees, and wire wrappings, cabochons. Put labels on your item. And be sure to have a placard with your name and the name of your display. Awards will be given for best in show, largest, smallest, best craft and other categories.

APRIL MEETING

Crystallography by Steve Boylan, Everybody interested in rocks, minerals and solids needs to know something about crystallography. This presentation shows how sample morphology and symmetry are connected by X-ray diffraction. Presentation will feature pyrite, garnet and galena. There may be a test.

Reference: https://www.slideshare.net/SteveBoylan2/edit_my_uploads

MAY MEETING

The History of the Historic Rutherford Mine Pegmatites Part Two

Drawing from archives and research papers dating back to the Nineteenth Century, Scott Duresky will be sharing the history of the mine and the property on which its located dating back to Lee's Retreat during the Civil War, continuing through a time when collectors from leading museums throughout the world found the pegmatites important sources of rare-earth minerals.

JUNE MEETING

Hybrid meeting Collecting Quartz Crystals in Saltville Virginia, video provided by The Virginia Mineral Project, Friends of Mineralogy Virginia Chapter, with Tom Hale. Saltville quartz crystals have become a classic locality for Virginia mineral collectors over the years. Come learn about the locality and what Saltville has to offer outside minerals. Plenty of photos from the field!

JULY MEETING OPEN

July 23, 2021 Annual Show and Sell 715 Moose Lodge

Honoring a Legend: David Callahan

By James Tomlin, Lynchburg Club President

Dave, No amount of words can ever express our gratitude for what you have done for the Gem and Mineral society of Lynchburg. Everything in this award is a testament to you and your contributions throughout the years you have been a part of the club. The wood was provided by Steve Gordon. It comes from a very old mahogany log that was found near Mt. Athos in a creek. The log was hand hewn by me and I hope the design reflects the amount of precision and care that you put in all that you do.

We had been searching for the perfect specimens to add to this piece for a while. They needed to be something that spoke to us and be representative of you. Thom and Linda Noble and I made a trip to David Lipscomb's shop, Virginia Rock Shop in Afton, VA. It was there that we discovered these two specimens and we knew they were just the right ones for you. The first specimen was purchased from the collection of David Lipscomb. It is a naturally rare form of Calcite and Chalcopyrite. It was collected in the 90's from the 1,100 foot level, drift 106 from Brushy Creek Mine, in Reynolds County, Missouri. It was chosen for you because of its natural rarity just as you are rare and genuine to us.



The second specimen is amazonite and smoky quartz from Pikes Peak, Colorado. It was selected because of the ingenuity and time that you have put into creating the spheres. The careful and meticulous design process, fabrication, and end product of the machines that you have created has enabled the club to produce handmade spheres for everyone to enjoy. The glass was selected, maybe purely by name as it is jade glass, but as well in a representation of the faceted stones that you create. The opaque green glass is Jade-ite which simulates the light Jade gemstone. I selected an angular design to represent the works of art that you have created through faceting.

Even though I know it's tempting, I hope you leave this piece of "Visionite" as you would call it, alone. Linda Noble put a lot of thought and care into choosing the perfect wording to summarize, but not limit how we all feel about you.

This award is a representation of the love and respect that the club feels for you and all the years you have hosted the workshop, dedicating your time and energy to the betterment of this club. Your years of commitment, comradery, mentorship, generosity, hospitality and longtime support to the Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg are greatly appreciated.

Field Trips

Club Field Trips

None at this time

South Eastern Federation Field Trips (Dixie Mineral)

An Official Field Trip of the Mobile Rock & Gem Society (Mobile, AL) (HOST)

SUNDAY, March 20, 2022
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Eastern
Patty Construction Quarry
7525 Hwy 27, Summerville GA
Unlimited Participants
No Fee

NOTE: DMC field trips will continue to be planned and scheduled, but may be cancelled or rescheduled pending COVID-19 status. If there are any changes to a trip, all contacts listed for DMC member clubs will be notified via email as soon as possible. The DMC trip schedule page on the SFMS website (<https://www.southeastfed.org/sfms-field-trips/dmc-field-trip-program/dmc-field-trip-schedule>) will also be updated with the current status of trips. **Lori Carter, DMC Coordinator**

Interested see Flyer sent out – If you did not get the flyer let me know.

Note from the Editor

Hello All,

I had my surgery and I am progressing very well. As of writing this I have been three weeks and I have progress from a walker to a walking stick to walking without anything. The transition from walker to walking stick was almost 3 weeks but from walking stick to nothing was 1 day. I have regained almost the degree of movement that I had pre surgery but that was with a bad knee. Still have pain in the knee but all the surrounding pain has subsided. I do plan to be at the meeting so I will see you there.

Since we have collector's night I would also say story night. All the rocks that I collected I can remember and because of that I have a story that goes with it. So be will to tell your story.

Thanks to those that have sent me pictures and I will incorporate them when I can.

I would love some pictures from any of you and about anything to put in the newsletter. I am giving out of my own pictures so please send me some of yours. Or give me something else to put in the place. That would give me some other inspiration and maybe bring joy to others also.

That is all for now,
Steve

Note from the Membership Chair-person

Debbie Wade

Hello all,

First, a reminder that our Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg is now on a January 1 through December 31 membership year. Membership fees are now all due annually before January 31st. Very few members have renewed thus far.

Our rates have changed:

Single adult membership is still \$15 annually.

Two adult memberships and/or up to 6 dependents is \$25 annually.

Membership badges are new also. I shall be issuing the new ones to everybody, hopefully catching a few of you at our monthly meeting to save some time and stamps. When you receive the new one, you can trash the old ones.

We currently have 95 members.

If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

Would you care to grow some glittering crystal geodes in eggshells with your kids?

Here's the link:

<https://www.hgtv.com/design/make-and-celebrate/handmade/diy-eggshell-crystal-geodes>

I get the newsletter from Emerald Hollow Mine. This article was referenced and I found it quite interesting. Maybe something for one of our newsletters? Emerald Hollow Mine is an awesome newsletter for someone like me, a novice :)

[What are the most Earth-like worlds we've found?](#)

Sincerely,

Debbie Wade

Membership Chair

Your GMSL membership entitles you to:

- * receive our monthly newsletters
 - * attend our monthly meetings
 - * participate in members-only GMSL fieldtrips to quarries, mines, & events related to gems & minerals
 - * purchase club t-shirts or hoodies
 - * discounts with several "rock" stores and vendors for current members with badges
 - * attend our club member's only workshop each month
 - * a chance to win a \$500 annual scholarship
-

Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg Meeting Minutes

February 15, 2022 @ 7:00

Attendance: 32 Members

Meeting called to order by: James Tomlin

On Time Drawing Winners: Carl Pilat, Mona Hagstrom, Thom Noble, Bob McIntire, Eric Routon, Glenda, Natalie Darling, Joan Moore, John Haskins, Holly Tomlin and Linda Noble

50/50 Winner: John Haskins won \$11 and donated it back to the club

Old Business: Our monthly meetings will be cancelled if Lynchburg City Schools close due to inclement weather

New Business: This is our first meeting at the 715 Moose Lodge. If you'd like to come early and eat dinner before the meeting they will be serving GMSL members in the meeting hall. They will also be serving us during the meeting if you'd like to purchase food or drink.

****James Tomlin presented Dave Callahan with an award for all of his hard work and dedication to the club***

Presentation: Boris Starosta gave a great hands on presentation on Stereoscopic Photography

Funny-side

How do geologists like to relax?

In rocking chairs, of course!

What do you call a rock that never goes to school?

A skipping stone!

Why did the tectonic plates break up?

It wasn't her fault, but there was just too much friction between them.

Who is a geologist's favorite band?

The Rolling Stones.

How did the geology student drown?

His grades were below C-level.

What did the motivational speaker say?

Don't take life for granite.

When were rock puns the funniest?

During the Stone Age.

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

International Gem Society

<https://www.gemsociety.org/reference-library/>

Mineral Cleaning for Amateurs

John's website is full of information that all mineral collectors will find useful and interesting.

<http://www.johnbetts-fineminerals.com/>

Morefield Mine Tour:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u5aQp57HMso>

Impromptu lecture on crystallography:

The crystallography talk can be found in the You Tube videos at https://youtu.be/sTtxMrh9_QI, or copy and paste in your browser: [Crystallography by Dave Woolley](#).

A Guide to Ethical and Conflict-Free Jewelry

<https://ethicaljewellery.org/introduction>.

Insurance Institute of Jewelry Appraisal

https://instituteofappraisal.com/Investigation_of_Artificial_Color_Infusion_of_Gemstones.pdf

https://instituteofappraisal.com/Exposing_the_GIA_Juggernaut.pdf

Rock collecting guide for geology beginners

<https://www.basementguides.com/rock-collecting-and-geology-basics/>

Facebook Link for the club

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/432839874271992/?ref=share>

Link to Mindat web page for Willis Mountain

[Willis Mountain Mine, Sprouses Corner, Farmville Mining District, Buckingham Co., Virginia, USA \(mindat.org\)](http://www.mindat.org/willismountain)

If you need to renew your club membership you can let me or Debbie Wade know and we can email you the form. You can make checks out to GMSL.

Our Mailing address is:

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