



THE VIRGINIA PEN

GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY OF THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA



July 2016

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Sara Phillips

Special Points of Interest:

- **GMSVP Meeting**
 - August 4th, 5:30 PM, (note **early start**) Sandy Bottom Nature Park's Nature Center, Hampton, VA (Rock Swap & Silent Lapidary Equipment Auction)
- **Treasures of the Earth (TOTE) Show**
 - July 15th—17th
 - VA Beach Convention Center
- **GMSVP Picnic**
 - September 10th
 - Sandy Bottom Nature Park's Lakeside Pavilion,

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Happy Summer everyone! I hope everyone is enjoying their summer vacation!

Dr. Jerry Johnson spoke at our June 30th meeting about the Mastodon Excavation in Yorktown, Virginia. He was a very entertaining speaker and brought samples for show and tell. Everyone enjoyed his presentation. Thank you Dr. Johnson!

Please note that our August 4th meeting will consist of our Rock Swap and Silent Equipment Auction. We also have t-shirts and hats for purchase. This meeting should be a good time for socializing and shopping!

We have an upcoming Treasures of the Earth (TOTE) Show from July 15th to the 17th at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. Please come out and volunteer your time at the show. See Dan Fontaine's reminder e-mail for more information. With your GMSVP membership card, you get into the TOTE shows for FREE! Please bring your membership card with you to get into this event.

We have field trips coming up in August (Gold Panning/Gem Sieving-Thermal City, NC), September (Kyanite Mine-Dillwyn, VA), and October (Fossil Hunt-Spring Grove, VA). Please be sure to check out the field trips section of the newsletter for more information. Contact me if you have questions.

Fun Mineral Fact: Ruby (aka Corundum) is the traditional birthstone for the month of July and can be a variety of shades of red. (Cont'd on next page.)

GMSVP Purpose: The purpose of the GMSVP is to: facilitate the exchange of information and general cooperation among its members by promoting the study of lapidary techniques, mineralogy, paleontology, and allied fields of Earth sciences; provide the community with a knowledge of the hobby through lectures, demonstrations, and exhibitions; and enjoy good fellowship.

Visitors Welcome: The GMSVP welcomes any visitor with an interest in geology, mineralogy and the lapidary arts. Whether you are a hobbyist, artist, collector or interested in Earth Science, the club has something for everyone.

Dues: Individual \$15, Couple \$20, and Family \$25. Dues information is under: [Documents and Membership Information on the GMSVP Website Homepage.](#)

Meeting Location: Our meetings are held at [Sandy Bottom Nature Park](#) in Hampton, VA. Check the GMSVP website [Events](#) page for actual dates and times. The upcoming meeting information is in the Special Points of Interest area on the left of this page.



GMSVP

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President's Corner (Cont'd)

Sara Phillips

(Cont'd from prior page) The blue variety of Corundum is called Sapphire. Corundum is harder than any other natural gemstone.

Have a Gneiss Day!!!

Sara Beth

Great June 30th Meeting Program!

Michael Griffith

Dr. Gerald Johnson provided an entertaining presentation on the Yorktown Mastodon at the June 30th meeting. He involved our members to demonstrate the location of the bones found and how the mastodon might have died. He included a number of bones that were passed around during his presentation.



GMSVP's "The Virginia Pen": Non-commercial reprint permission is granted to non-profit organizations, unless otherwise noted.

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In lieu of a speaker, the GMSVP August meeting will have our second annual rock swap. There also will be a silent auction for the lapidary equipment. **NOTE EARLIER START AT 5:30 PM.**

ROCK SWAP: The August 4th GMSVP meeting will be our club's second annual rock swap. As always, members and guests are welcome.

The purpose of the rock swap is to share some rocks and rock-related items that our members have with other members through swapping for similar priced items or purchasing. This hopefully will allow some of us to expand our collection by swapping or purchasing items no longer desired by some of our members.

Rock Swap Process:

- Members desiring to participate will be given a space on a table, e.g., 3 feet.
- 5:30 – 6:30 PM: Setup, perusal of available items for sale or swap, and social (eating/chatting)
- 6:30 – ~7:30 PM: Rock Swap. (Cash only. Bring small currency, if possible, to facilitate purchasing of items.)



SILENT AUCTION: Our club also will be having a concurrent silent auction during the meeting for 19 pieces of lapidary equipment that have been donated or purchase from estates of former members.

Auction items include: a vibrator polisher, lapidary drum machine, two diamond saws, a dop pot, a Craftool lapidary unit, a buffer machine, Graves shaper/polisher, a double split rubber drum, a single grinding wheel, two faceting machines, a Sears lapidary unit, a Scott Murray rock tumbler, a Ray Tilt gem maker, a Craftsman flat lap, a 2-wheeler shaper with buffing pad, a Kerr kiln, a Genie machine, and an 8-inch Lee faceting machine. See the Silent Auction Lapidary Equipment Flyer distributed with this newsletter. You can also access the flyer by clicking on the following link: <http://www.gmsvp.org/announcements.html>.



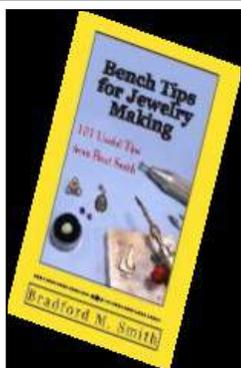
Example: American Faceting Machine with Supplies

Silent Auction Process:

- A picture of each item and its description will be by each item being auctioned.
- A card or sheet also will be by the equipment with the minimum bid price and space for a bidder to put their name and bid.
- Anyone interested should add their bid(s) to the sheet as the silent auction progresses.



GMSVP A WINNER! I received two post cards from the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies that GMSVP has been judged to be among the top ten newsletter contest entries in North America in their Bulletin Editors Contest! The winners will be announced at the AFMS Convention's Editors Breakfast in Albany, Oregon on July 30th. We may not hear which of our entries (large bulletin and articles) are the winner until the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (EFMLS) Convention in October.—Dan Fontaine



DO BEZELS SHRINK?

The engineer in me says there's no reason a bezel should shrink when I solder it onto a base plate, but I sometimes find that the stone won't quite fit into the bezel that was perfect just before soldering.

If that ever happens to you, here's a fix that usually works for those times when there's just a minor problem. I file or sand the stone down a little around its base. For soft cabs like turquoise, lapis, jet or howlite, you can use a sanding stick. Harder cabs like jasper or agates will require a diamond file. In a pinch, a ruby nail file from the drugstore will work.

There are two important things to remember when doing this. First, you can only make a minor adjustment to the stone's size. All filing or sanding has to be hidden by the bezel because it takes the polish off the stone. Secondly, remember to round off all sharp edges on the bottom of the stone. A sharp edge here might sit on a little extra solder that's in the bottom joint of your bezel. Just a little bump here can put enough stress the stone to risk breakage when you burnish the bezel down over the stone.

STRAIGHTENING WIRE

Have you ever pulled out some silver wire only to find that it's all bent up? The easiest way I've found to straighten it out is to stretch it a bit.

Simply put one end in the vise and grab the other end with a pair of serrated tip pliers. Then pull just enough to feel the wire stretch like a rubber band. This works best on smaller wire diameters, up to about 16 ga.

Be careful if you are trying to pull hard on a thick wire. Brace yourself in case the wire breaks or pulls out of the pliers.

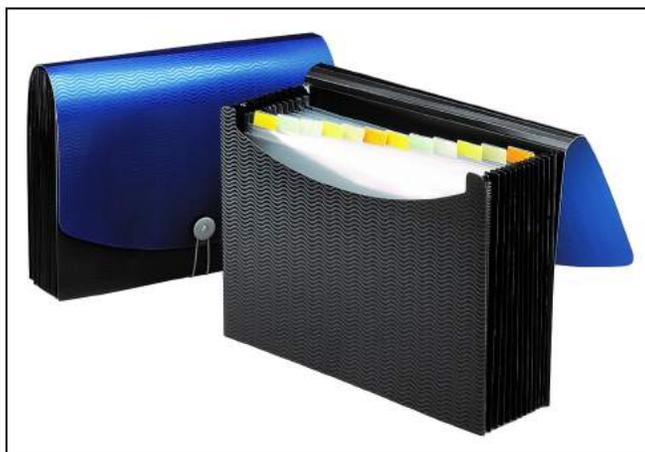


SHEET & WIRE STORAGE

The more you work with jewelry, the more problems you have finding the piece of metal you need. My pieces of sheet were generally stored in various plastic bags, and the wire was in separate coils. Few were marked, so it often took me a while to locate that piece of 26 ga fine sheet I bought last year, especially since I usually take my supplies back and forth to classes.

A tip from a friend helped me organize everything. I bought an expanding file folder from the office supplies store (the kind that has 13 slots and a folding cover) and marked the tabs for each gauge of metal I use. Then I marked all my pieces of sheet with their gauge, put them in plastic bags, marked the gauge on the bag, and popped them into the folder. I usually store coils of wire loose in the folder, but they can also be bagged if you prefer. I use one tab for bezel wire and one for the odd, miscellaneous items.

The resulting folder is really convenient when I want to take my metal out to a class or workshop, and it's colorful enough for me to easily find in the clutter of the shop! (Cont'd on next page.)



LITTLE BALLS

I often use little balls of silver and gold as accent pieces on my designs. They can be made as needed from pieces of scrap. Cut the scrap into little pieces, put them on a solder pad and melt them with a torch.

Then throw the balls into a small cup of pickle.

If you need to make all the balls the same size, you need the same amount of metal to melt each time. The best way to do that is to clip equal lengths of wire.

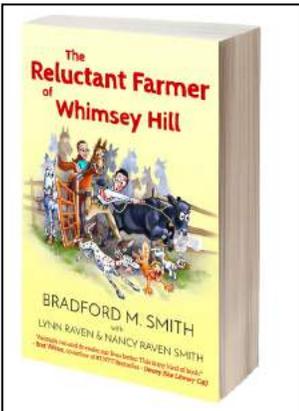
But there's an easier way to get a good supply of balls. Some casting grain comes in near perfect ball form. Just grab your tweezers and pick out the ones you need. When you need larger quantities of balls, pour the casting grain out onto a baking pan, tilt the pan a bit, and let all the round pieces roll to the bottom. Bag the good ones, and

pour the rest back into your bag for casting. Balls can be sorted into different sizes using multiple screens.

Personal Note: I'm excited to tell you about my family memoir.

"The Reluctant Farmer of Whimsey Hill" is the true, light-hearted love story about a city boy (me) moving to a farm where dealing with my new wife's crazy rescue animals almost did me in. If you enjoy a good pet story like "Marley and Me" or "All Creatures Great and Small", take a look at the sample chapters on Amazon: <http://amzn.to/1XoblsP>.

"Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" are available on Amazon.

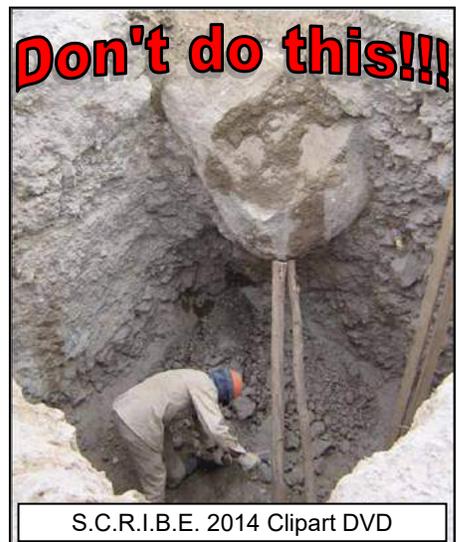


Bill Neff needs a backup Shows Chair to assist and fill in when he is unavailable. Please contact Sara Phillips (sphillips@ecslimited.com) or Bill Neff, neff29464@gmail.com, if you can support our club in this important position!

Rock Garden Improvement

Zuelia Ann Hurt

Originally my rock garden consisted of pebble rocks imbedded in chunks of cement recycled from a former "something." Now it Sparkles with the rocks and geodes from the Big Box Gift from the GMSVP's former stash! Many thanks for this glamorification!!!



PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING AS A PEBBLE PUPS CO-LEADER. *I'm honored to be able to help the club continue to provide the Pebble Pups program. I truly believe that the kids are the future and their understanding of things around them will also shape it. I would appreciate assistance with the program, as I have gotten busier with building, kids, Scouts, and sailing. The assistance can be just background research or getting some lapidary craft or games put together. Thanks! Christine (offalstuff@gmail.com)*

GMSVP Property Manager—Open

Sara Phillips

Please let Sara Phillips (sphillips@ecslimited.com) know as soon as possible, if you are interested in the property manager position.

Our GMSVP Property Manager, Hank Woods, will be moving back to his family in Texas. Hank has been our property manager for a number of years. While we will miss his knowledge of gems and minerals and our club's equipment, we will miss his friendship most of all. We certainly wish Hank safe travels and only good gems and minerals.

Hank's departure leaves GMSVP in need of a volunteer to take over the duties of GMSVP property manager. The property manager is an essential position, i.e., GMSVP needs an orderly and well maintained shed and well maintained and operational rock polishing and cutting equipment to support our club activities.

The basic duties include: keep an inventory of club assets; repair equipment as necessary; order repair parts for equipment; order other equipment as the board directs; order geodes as directed; arrange for equipment delivery to and from the TOTE Shows (rent and drive the truck); serve on the board of directors; and assist members in the repair of their equipment.

New GMSVP Members—Welcome New Rockhounds!

No new members during the past month.

Gem Tree Workshop

Gary Bergtholdt is holding 2-3 hour gem tree workshops at his home. If interested, contact Gary at: gbergtholdt@gmail.com.



**Remaining 2016 Show Dates
Virginia Beach Convention Center
July 15 - 17 & Oct 14 - 16**



**GMSVP Meeting
(Rock Swap & Silent Auction)
Thursday, August 4th, 5:30 PM
Sandy Bottom Nature Park's Nature Center
Hampton, VA Enter from Big Bethel Road**

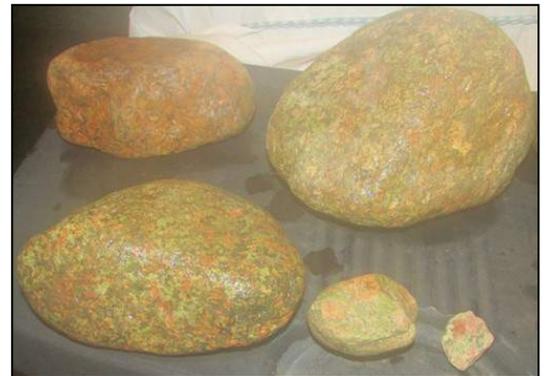
See the minutes on pages 11 and 12 for committee reports.



On July 1st, I traveled to the Rose River to search for unakite. On State Route 670 just past the Graves Mountain Lodge, I crossed the first bridge over the Rose River. The highway was originally named, the Old Blue Ridge Highway and leads you from Syria into the Shenandoah National Park. As can be seen in this picture of the bridge and the Rose River, the area is covered with trees and the stream bed is filled with rocks.



Among the rocks in the stream bed and on the banks a person can find the beautiful granite rich in epidote, or commonly called unakite. Most of the unakite I found was in the stream bed below the bridge. As I walked in the water, I turned over the rocks to expose the colors of the rock. Several of the rocks were evidently pink orthoclase feldspar, green epidote, and unakite, while other rocks needed to have the mud brushed off.



Then on the bank above the bridge I found an unexpected treasure, several rocks with shells and coral embedded in them. At first I only found the larger rock but soon I found other rocks with shells and/or coral.

Then the highlight of the trip was when I found foot print impressions in the rock. I was excited, prints of primitive humans in Virginia?! However on closer inspection I discovered it was not rock, but cement and of a much more recent age. Well maybe next time.

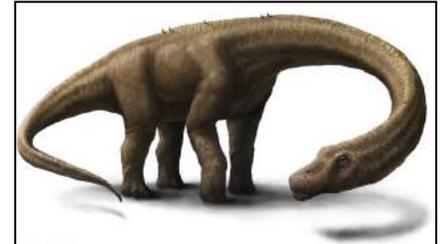
This trip was an enriching time in a beautiful part of our state. The unakite was not easy to find. I spent 2 days walking in the stream and the bulk of my search is seen in the picture. Yet overall I found the trip refreshing and rewarding.



Source: S.C.R.I.B.E.'s Best of the Best: AFMS Bulletin Contest; Large Bulletin 3rd Place: Rock Buster News Nov 2014
<http://rockandmineral.org/index.htm>

Paleo

Titanosaurs from Argentina include the largest land animals known. Their weight is estimated by a formula that includes the circumference of the thigh and humerus bones. Unfortunately, these dinosaurs are usually known from only a few bones, so their estimated weights may be off. In 2005, Kenneth Lacovara, associate professor of geology and paleontology at Drexel University, and colleagues began uncovering bones in Cretaceous deposits in Argentina. By now, over 250 bones of this dinosaur have been recovered, allowing scientists to give a pretty good estimate of its weight - 65 tons. And it was still growing when it died, as shown by the shoulder bones, which had not fused together. Its size earned it the name of *Dreadnoughtus schrani* - "Schrani's dreadnought" - after Adam Schrani, a Philadelphia entrepreneur who helped fund the research, and the early dreadnought-style battleships that were considered too big to fear



Life restoration of *Dreadnoughtus schrani*, by Jennifer Hall



Kenneth Lacovara surrounded by the skeleton of *Dreadnoughtus schrani* at the dig site in Argentina

anything. 3-D laser scans of the bones will stay at Philadelphia's Academy of Natural Sciences, while the bones themselves will be returned to Santa Cruz province in Argentina. (Harrisburg's Patriot News, ScienceDaily.com) Pictures and drawings from *Wikipedia* added by editor.

Remember in *Jurassic Park III* when the *Spinosaurus* was sneaking up in the water with only its sail, shark-like, was visible? Well, that may have been a pretty accurate depiction. In fact, running fast on its hind legs on land may have been the falsehood. After a lot of searching, and wheeling-dealing with collectors in Morocco, Nizar Ibrahim of the U. of Chicago discovered the most

complete skeleton of *S. aegypticus* since Ernst Stromer first discovered it in Egypt in 1912. Everything about *Spinosaurus* reveals it was aquatic. Its yard-long skull had teeth up 7-inches long in order to grasp slippery fish. Neurovascular pits at the tip of its snout probably held pressure sensitive receptors, as crocodilians do, to sense prey. The nostrils were high on the snout to allow the animal to breathe while it was mostly submerged. The fore claws were massive and curved to tear prey apart. The joints in the arms and heads were fairly ridged, allowing the fingers to rest on the ground. In fact, *Spinosaurus* was so top-heavy that it may have walked four-footed on land. If so, then recreating how *Spinosaurus* looked has come full circle. Like *Iguanodon*, it was thought to be quadrupedal at first. The ribs were dense, like most of the other bones, and curved to make a barrel-shaped torso. The hind claw were wide and flat, unlike other theropods, and might've been webbed. The legs were short. The tail bones were loosely connected to each other allowing the tail to move side to side for propulsion. CT-scans of the bones, combined with photos and drawings of Stromer's original specimen (which was mostly destroyed in Munich in WWII by Allied bombing) and isolated bones found throughout the Sahara, helped create a complete skeleton for National Geographic Museum in Washington, D.C., and a life-size statue for the outside courtyard. *Spinosaurus* was 50 feet long and weighed 6 tons, making it longer but lighter than *Giganotosaurus* and *T.rex*. It lived 94 million years ago when northern Africa had great riverine systems and inland seas holding fish that could grow 18 to 25 feet long. (Harrisburg Patriot News, ScienceDaily.com, National Geographic Magazine October 2014)



Sculpture in Germany, reflecting how the animal was depicted prior to 2014



To my knowledge there is no rockhound/mineral collector/fossilhound/lapidary/jewelry maker Safety 101 class being offered anywhere. In my years and years... and years of safety research I've sort of made up an informal list of what might be offered if there were such a course .

Now, I'm sure you all as good rockhounds/mineral collectors/fossilhounds/lapidary/jewelry makers are aware of and follow pretty much a self-made list of similar guidelines -- and one more specifically tailored to your particular activities. So, the following list may be more of a reminder for veteran collectors and a good reference list for newcomers to our great hobbies.

1. Prepare yourself both mentally and physically for the task at hand.
2. Wear and utilize any and all protective gear suitable for the task.
3. Stay hydrated and consider bringing additional water with you to offer to those less encumbered with thoughts of keeping hydrated .
4. Keep with you or know the whereabouts of a medi-kit or first-aid kit. Learn how to use the contents of the kit.
5. Let folks know where and when you will be both on the road and situated at a specific location. (Cell phone batteries are notorious for quitting at the most inopportune times.)
6. Keep your personal meds with you.
7. Know the guidelines, safety rules of the mine/quarry/building/equipment one is working with/on/in and by.
8. Keep the "Golden Rule" in mind, and, no, I'm not talking about the rule that says: "He who has the gold makes the rules."
9. Mind the needs of the critters you bring with you, and the critters you meet along the way.
10. Set a good example in all you do. (I have a good story about motor neurons to relate in a later Safety Matters article.)
11. Every minute has the potential to be one in which one can learn something and teach something -- or a little bit of both. Take advantage of those opportunities.
12. Take more rest breaks than you might think you need for the task at hand - - your body will thank you.
13. Mind the conditions in which you find yourself - too hot, too cold, too wet , too humid, too deep, too close to an edge or slope, too slippery, too hazardous, tooooo . . . anything.
14. Mind that your actions reflect on your club.
15. Note that your attitude makes a huge difference in what you do and how safe you are.
16. Keep your wits about you at all times, you will need them if not now , then later. Personally I have used up so many wits that I am down to a half of one, but that is another story for another time.
17. Have maps handy. Those GPS batteries are also ones that have a habit of failing when most needed.
18. Our hobby is not a race - take the appropriate amount of time to be safe.
19. Keep a personal protective kit with you in case one gets lost and you need to spend more time than planned out in the wilds and woolies.
20. Keep in mind the AFMS Code of Ethics - it is as much a safety guide as it is ethics.
21. Learn to fly the plane if the pilot is incapacitated - a metaphor of all experiences in life.
22. Clean up after oneself.

As one might imagine this list is in no particular order and every situation demands it's own specific requirements. As a general list of guidelines I'm sure another thousand or so could be added without too much thought. This list is just a good starting point.

Be safe, think safety, becauseyour safety matters.

Good Afternoon GMSVP Members,

We have a few field trips coming up over the next several months. Please see the information below. **Contact only me directly for signup.** See above for my e-mail contact information.

August 6th – Thermal City Gold Mine, 221 North Hwy, Union Mills, NC 28167 (9am until 5pm)

Contact Sara Phillips directly for signup! <http://www.thermalcitygoldmine.com/>

Information and Pricing —**Prospecting (Panning) fees** \$10.00 per person per day. Trommel, hi-banker and load deliveries – 9 AM & 1 PM. Trommel and hi-banker runs are \$60.00. Regular Loads delivered to the gravel bar are \$50.00 per load. Buckets of Gem Stone material range in price from \$5.00 to \$75.00.

Note: No Loads delivered on Mondays or Tuesdays. Office hours are 8:30 AM – 5 PM seven days a week.

September 24th – Willis Kyanite Mine, Dillwyn, VA (waiting on confirmation of this date and time)

October 29th – Pipsico Fossil Collecting, Spring Grove, VA- Contact Sara Phillips directly for signup!

Boy Scout Reservation Fossil Dig – 1 hour drive from Sandy Bottom Nature Park

Date/Time: Saturday October 28th; 9 AM until the afternoon. This field trip will happen rain or shine! There is a \$5 collecting fee and a wavier will need to be signed.

Location: Pipsico Boy Scout Camp Reservation, 57 Pipsico Road, Spring Grove, VA

Details: Opportunities to collect fossils (sharks teeth, scallop shells, coral, etc). Camping is allowed the night before if anyone is interested (\$5 per night). We are allowed to camp from Friday to Sunday. More information as date gets closer.

Let me know, if anyone has any questions. sphillips@ecslimited.com



Cadillac Mountain, Acadia National Park, Maine Pink Granite (Photo by Dan Fontaine) - Unfortunately it was too heavy for the suitcase for the trip home!



- The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 PM by President Sara Phillips at Sandy Bottom Nature Center. This meeting takes the place of the July meeting, due to the July 4th holiday.
- Sara welcomed two new members and guests.
- The delivery of the new rock saw that we ordered has been delayed due to a quality control issue. We hope to take delivery sometime in July, but it may be as late as October.
- Sara presented a certificate to Renee Eichman acknowledging her successful completion of the Silver Fabrication I class.
- Sara Phillips shared with us information about the upcoming field trips. Contact her for details, if you are interested in attending any of the trips.
- We have been invited to join the Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club at Contrary Creek, Mineral, Virginia on July 9th. This is an opportunity to pan or dredge the creek for gold, garnets, and hematite.
- On August 6 we plan to visit Thermal City in southwest North Carolina. This is also a gold panning/dredging opportunity. Families are welcome.
- A trip to Willis Mountain Kyanite mine is tentatively scheduled for September 24th.
- October 29th is the date for the fossil collecting trip to Pipsico.
- Vice President Michael Griffith reported that we have 590 followers on Facebook. There are several very interesting articles that have been posted regarding bird fossils found in amber and National Asteroid Day.
- The August 4th meeting will consist of the second annual rock swap and a lapidary equipment auction. The auction will be a silent auction and will be advertised to other area clubs via the newsletter, website and Facebook site.
- Hospitality Chair/Secretary Pat Fontaine thanked members for supplying food for tonight's meeting and asked members to suggest menu items for future meetings. She also reported that the Board meeting minutes were available for correction and comment.
- Treasurer Gary Bergtholdt reported that all bills have been paid. He also asked members to please submit any receipts for items they have purchased for the club.
- A co-lead person for the Pebble Pups is still needed.
- Sara reminded us that the next TOTE show is coming up this month.
- Volunteers are needed for all aspects of the show, from loading and set up on Thursday July 14th, through selling and cutting geodes and demonstrating skills on Friday through Sunday, and take down and unloading at the end of the show on Sunday July 17th.
- We will be displaying the LeMadre collection in one of the regulation display cases.
- Any member who wishes to use one of those cases to display items at the show should notify Bill Neff or Sara Phillips ahead of time, so that we know how many cases to transport to the show.
- A volunteer is still needed to co-chair the show committee.
- Newsletter Editor Dan Fontaine expressed thanks for all the help he has gotten from members with articles for the newsletter. He will be distributing July's newsletter by mid-month.
He also noted that he is the club's communication facilitator. As such he also forwards e-mails from board members and committee chairs for help or information to our club members; in those situations, he requested that members respond directly to the appropriate board member or committee chair and not to him. For example, even though Dan relays a notification about field trips to all members, questions should be sent to Sara Phillips, not Dan, regarding the trips. (Cont'd on next page.)



- (Cont'd from prior page) The Property Manager position is still vacant.
- Any donations of rock or mineral related books, magazines, or videos would be gladly accepted for the club's library.
- Faceting Chair Chuck Rogers reported nothing new.
- Silver Fabrication Chair Anthony Hubbard reported that he will be leaving our area in 6-7 months, but is still available for silver fabrication classes until that time.
- Minerology Chair Walter Priest stated that there are still 7 rock boxes left. Those members who desire one should let him know.
- Webmaster Holly Worsham reported that she will post information about our August equipment auction on the website, so that interested persons may see items that are available.
- Members may still order club t-shirts and hats, if they desire. T-shirts are \$12.50 each up to size XL. Larger sizes are \$1.25 additional for each size greater than XL. Hats are \$13.50 each. Contact Barbara Priest (ben7@cox.net), if you would like to place an order. Members must pay once the order is received.
- Several shirts have not been claimed by the persons who ordered them.
- Several of the larger size shirts that were ordered have not arrived yet.
- Barbara Priest suggested that we order a few extra shirts in case future members would like one.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM so that we could all enjoy Dr. Gerald Johnson's presentation on the Yorktown Mastodon.

Minutes prepared by Pat Fontaine

July 1, 2016

/original signed/

Club Logo Gear

Please contact Barbara Priest at ben7@cox.net, if you would like to order T-shirts, hats, and tote bags with the club logo. T-shirts are \$12.50 each up to size XL. Larger sizes are \$1.25 additional for each size greater than XL. Hats are \$13.50 each. Tote bags are still being priced.



Upcoming Club Activities

Gem & Mineral Society of the Virginia Peninsula (GMSVP):

- GMSVP Meeting: August 4th, 5:30 PM, (Note earlier time) Sandy Bottom Nature Park's Nature Center, Hampton, VA
 - Rock Swap
 - Silent Lapidary Equipment Auction
- GMSVP Picnic: September 10th, Sandy Bottom Nature Park's Lakeside Pavilion, Hampton, VA
- Treasures of the Earth (TOTE) Show: Oct 14th - 16th, Virginia Beach

AFMS CODE OF ETHICS



I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.

I will keep informed on all laws, regulations of rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.

I will to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.

I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.

I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind - fences, signs, buildings.

I will leave all gates as found.

I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.

I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.

I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.

I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.

I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.

I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.

I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.

I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.

I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.

I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.

I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public "image" of rockhounds everywhere.