



# THE VIRGINIA PEN

GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY OF THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA



February 2018

## President's Corner

Vinton Feanny

### Special Points of Interest:

- GMSVP Member Meeting, Mar 1, 7 PM
- TOTE Show, Mar 9-11
- Pipsico Fossil Field Trip, Apr 7
- AFMS/EFMLS Convention, Raleigh, NC, Apr 5-9 ([See GMSVP Newsletter](#))

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Our February club meeting was a great success. The presentation by Greg Hajos and Ingrid Carlberg on the Gray (Tennessee) Fossil Site and Museum was extremely interesting and informative. I am sure many of us would very much like to head to Tennessee to see these marvelous fossils and perhaps dig for a day or two.

Information on this site is now on the Club's website (<http://www.gmsvp.org/programs.html>) along with links for volunteering.

I would like to take a moment to thank all our members who constantly step up to volunteer for our various activities. Without volunteers, the club would not work. Thanks to our Property Manager, Tom Meyers, for volunteering to drive the truck for the March TOTE show. Tom is awaiting the birth of his newborn in April, but still feels the desire to assist the club in additional duties. Thanks Tom.

Lisa Cumming along with Jean Grunwald have also volunteered to assist us at the upcoming TOTE show on Saturday and also on Sunday afternoon. Thank you ladies!

The TOTE show runs from March 9th - 11th. The transfer of geodes and items to support our booth occurs the day before on Thursday, March 8th. The packing of the truck takes place at Sandy Bottom Nature Park at our storage shed (see pg 3 for directions). We usually begin packing the truck at around Noon and unloading the truck at the Virginia Beach Convention Center at around 1:30 PM. We then proceed to set up our booth and saws for the opening of the TOTE show on Friday. We need more volunteers for both the Thursday truck packing and booth setup (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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Web: <http://www.gmsvp.org>

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/The-Gem-and-Mineral-Society-of-the-Virginia-Peninsula-GMSVP/275041405841489](http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Gem-and-Mineral-Society-of-the-Virginia-Peninsula-GMSVP/275041405841489)

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**Field Trips:** Lisa Cumming,  
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## President's Corner (Cont'd)

Vinton Feanny

(Cont'd from prior page.) and the Sunday breaking down of our booth and loading and unloading of the truck. Please assist.

Please remember that if you volunteer to either help load or unload the truck and 4 hours of your time during the show, you may purchase any geode of your choice at half price! Additionally, we have the Genie Machines set up for club member use. More experienced cabochon grinders are usually on hand to guide you in the proper procedures of grinding and polishing cabs. We also have a trim saw and a smaller saw available for your personal use. Additionally, if you have a large rock that needs to be slabbed, there is a possibility of getting that rock slabbed during a slow period, PLUS the additional benefit of learning how to use the large saws.

Our new Hospitality Host Brigitta Haggins did an excellent first job in organizing our February dinner. Pat Fontaine added an extremely delicious stromboli to the feast, along with Brenda Hawks' fantastic gumbo. All in all, a great repast.

Lisa Cumming has volunteered to become our new Field Trip Committee Chair. Thank you Lisa. I am looking forward to exciting trips.

Our upcoming field trip to the Pipsico Boys' Scout Reservation near Surry, Virginia will be on April 7th. Please advise Lisa Cumming, if you are interested in taking part in this trip. You can collect anytime between 9 AM and dark. The collection fee is \$5 per person.

There are still a few members who have not paid their annual dues. Please see Walter Priest or Brenda Hawks at the March meeting. The membership form is also on our website (<http://www.gmsvp.org>). The form has mailing instructions. The dues help us fund our picnics, meeting dinners and holiday dinners. Thanks.

## March Meeting Program

Michael Griffith

I am still working on our program for the March 1st meeting. I will send the information to our editor to share with club members, when I lock it down.

## March Pebble Pups Program

Christine Hempley

I will distribute a "Signup Genius" e-mail about a week before the March 1st GMSVP meeting that will contain Pebble Pups program details. Please sign up your "Pebble Pup," so we may plan material availability accordingly.

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Volunteers can sign up by contacting Vinton Feanny at: [FeannyVin@gmail.com](mailto:FeannyVin@gmail.com).



GMSVP once again will have a booth at the Treasures of the Earth (TOTE) Show being held at the Virginia Beach Convention Center on March 9 - 11. GMSVP's booth will have displays to educate the public about Virginia's natural resources and our club. Members also display their collections and demonstrate the equipment. As a fund raising activity, our club sells geodes at the show, which we cut with our rock saws. These shows also are a great way to increase awareness and gain new club members.

Any of our members may use the club's equipment during the show. All they have to do is sign up to reserve a time. While the equipment can be used without a reservation, those signed up will have first preference. Members will be available to provide training on equipment proper use and safety for new rockhounds. Volunteers have ample time to also see the show.

**HELP NEEDED:**

- **Thursday, March 8th:**

- ◊ **Noon:** Volunteers should meet at our club shed at the Sandy Bottom Nature Park (*enter from Big Bethel Road and turn right at the sign saying "Authorized Vehicles only"*) at noon to load the truck and caravan over to the show site (or can meet us at Virginia Beach Convention Center at 1:30—2 PM).
- ◊ **~2 PM:** Truck unloading and GMSVP booth/ equipment setup. Booth and equipment setup takes about 3 hours; more volunteers, less time.



- **Friday, March 9th to Sunday, March 11th:** During the show, GMSVP booth/equipment have four areas that need manning: demonstrations, education/youth programs, geode/slab cutting, and sales.

- **Sunday, March 11th:**

- ◊ Booth and equipment cleanup, teardown, and truck loading at the end of the show.
- ◊ Truck unloading at the club's shed in Sandy Bottom Nature Park.

Members are reminded that (1) we get free access to the show (bring your GMSVP membership card) and (2) we are not competing with the other vendors or clubs.

Questions should be directed to Vinton Feanny at: [FeannyVin@gmail.com](mailto:FeannyVin@gmail.com).





Hello everyone! I am excited to serve as your field trip coordinator this year. We joined GMSVP at the fall TOTE show and loved getting to know many wonderful members at the meetings and during the last field trip to Scufflin Acres.

I first became interested in fossils at a young age when climbing over piles of stones on my grandparents' stone walls in upstate New York. There I found a small shell fossil. I was curious how a shell would end up in a stone in the Catskill Mountains. My curiosity led to learning about fossils, rock formations, and about gems and minerals located in whatever region or state I happened to travel through. I love to be outside and "pick through the dirt"

when I can. I also like to visit rock and gem shows and browse through the tables. My treasures include a mosasaur tooth with the root and half a large megalodon tooth.

We have one field trip already scheduled to Pipsico for fossils on Apr 7th and since volunteering at the last meeting, I have been researching for additional trips. If you have any suggestions about places to visit, please let me know. I plan to have many field trips scheduled this year for our club members!

**New GMSVP Member—Welcome New Rockhounds!**

**Henry Dewitt Shank III**

**Kudos to three of our newer club members! Please help these great members!**

Lisa Cumming is our new Field Trip Coordinator. We all love to go on fun field trips to find and collect cool fossils and rocks. Please support Lisa in her efforts to set up field trips and let her know if you would like to attend any of them.

Brigitta Haggins is our new Hospitality Committee Chair. Hospitality is an important social committee that helps create the welcome, fun atmosphere for our members at the meeting.

Tom Meyers is our new Property Committee Chair. Tom manages the shed and ensures our lapidary equipment is in good working order.

**Our club is only successful because of all of your help. Thanks for serving as a board member or on one of our many committees!**



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



**2018 Show Dates**

**March 9 - 11,**

**July 20 - 22, and October 12 - 14**

**(All at the VA Beach Convention Center)**



**GMSVP Meeting**

**Thursday, March 1st, 7 PM**

**Sandy Bottom Nature Park's Nature Center  
Hampton, VA**

**Gem Tree Workshop**

Gary Bergtholdt is holding 2-3 hour gem tree workshops at his home. If interested, contact

Gary at: [gbergtholdt@gmail.com](mailto:gbergtholdt@gmail.com).





The Tidewater Gem and Mineral Society (TGMS) is holding its annual auction on Friday, March 16th, 7 PM, at the Memorial United Methodist Church, 804 Gammon Road, Virginia Beach, VA. 23464. Potential auction items are still being identified. However, the club recently obtained a 50-year old collection, which includes specimens and a lot of fossils. The auction may also include lapidary equipment such as a vibrating tumbler, kiln, and miscellaneous other equipment.

**SFMS Education**

**Danny Griffin, SFMS Assistant Education Chair**

Source: SFMS Loadstar Newsletter, January 2018



**SFMS**  
Southeast Federation of  
Mineralogical Societies, Inc.



Below is the workshop schedules for 2018. We have an excellent list of classes for this year. Please review the schedules and pick a class before they

fill. Some, as in years past, will fill very quickly.

There are several classes that have never been offered before. The Workshop Website ([www.sfmshworkshop.com](http://www.sfmshworkshop.com)) should have the class descriptions posted within the next few days. Also attached to [this issue of the Lodestar](#) is a workshop application for those who want to get an early start.

If you have any questions feel free to contact anyone on the Workshop Staff listed below the class schedules.

**William Holland – June 10 - 16**

Cabochon 1 – Dave Bergquist; Wire 2 (Bracelets) - Gene Sheridan; Jr. Rockhounds / Wirecraft 1 - Sandi Bergquist; Gemstone Faceting - Linda Searcy; Intarsia - Bill Boggs; Inlay / Silver 1- Chuck Bruce; Silver 1 - Patti Appleby; Wire 1 & Spoon Jewelry - Jan & Keith Stephens; Immersion Enamel / Cold Connection - Debra Mauser; Silver 2 (Rings, Rings, Rings) – Vicki Prillaman; Beading – Gail DeLuca; Electro Plating – Micah Kirby ; and Chasing – Tom and Kay Benham

**Wildacres – August 20 - 26**

Casting - Bill Harr; Introduction to Gem ID - Teresa Polly; Metal Clays ("Tangible Moments: Capturing the Beauty of Nature in Metal") - Judi Talley; Metalwork Special Projects - Jeff Sheer; Silver 1 - Morning Sherrod; Chain Maille - Roy Deere; and Wire 1 – Rowan Rose-Morgan

**Wildacres – September 17 - 23**

Enameling - Ruth Prince; Stone and Silver Inlay - Chuck Bruce; Electro Etching - Micah Kirby; Seed Beading - Ann Page; Cold Connections - Morning Sherrod; Chain Maille - Roy Deere

**Workshop Staff**

Lisa Roberts - Education Chair, (423) 494-7096, [antleycreations@yahoo.com](mailto:antleycreations@yahoo.com)

Danny Griffin – Assistant Education Chair, (865) 406-8802, [gcjinc@comcast.net](mailto:gcjinc@comcast.net)

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Link to Registration Form: [http://sfmshworkshops.com/?attachment\\_id=601](http://sfmshworkshops.com/?attachment_id=601)

# What Are You Waiting For?

Steve Weinberger, EFMLS Wildacres Committee Chair; Source: EFMLS News, Volume 65, Number 5, March 2018

The Eastern Federation is most fortunate to be able to sponsor two annual week-long workshops at the fabulous Wildacres Retreat in Little Switzerland, North Carolina. If you've not yet attended one of these terrific sessions,

### What are you waiting for?

Each workshop features a guest speaker (Speaker-in-Residence) who lives with the group and presents six informative talks during the week. In addition, each session features a variety of classes that you take -- jewelry fabrication, faceting, wire-wrapping, beading -- to name just a few. A complete list of offerings can be found on the Wildacres Workshop page on the EFMLS website (<http://efmls-wildacres.org/>).

For the spring session, May 21-27, we have the vivacious and talented Helen Serras-Herman. Helen will share her passion for jewelry fabrication, gemstone carving and travel with us. In fall, Alfredo Petrov, noted mineral dealer and collector will be making a return visit. The mineral "alfredopetrovite" was named after him.

A bit about the Wildacres Workshops and Retreat...

Located just off the Blue Ridge Parkway, about an hour north of Asheville, the Wildacres Retreat nestles on top of it's own mountain called Pompey's Knob. The Retreat facility consists of two lodges each featuring a series of comfortable, semi-private bedrooms with their own bathroom. Well equipped classrooms are scattered throughout the campus, many equipped with specialized equipment such as cabbing and faceting machines, jewelry making equipment, etc.

Meals are included are served family style in a separate dining hall. All of your expenses, except materials for your classes and items you may wish to purchase in the canteen or at the annual auction, are included with your tuition. For 2018, tuition is \$425 per person.

### What are YOU waiting for?

Classes are kept small and are assigned, based on your preferences, on a first come-first-filled basis, we encourage you to register early to ensure your first choice. Some classes do fill rapidly, so please indicate 4 choices per semester so you won't be disappointed.

### What are YOU waiting for?



The February birthstone, amethyst, is a violet variety of quartz often used in jewelry.

Structure: Amethyst is a purple variety of quartz (SiO<sub>2</sub>) and owes its violet color to irradiation or iron impurities. The hardness of the mineral is the same as quartz, thus it is suitable for use in jewelry.



Hue and Tone: Amethyst occurs in primary hues from a light pinkish violet to a deep purple. Amethyst may exhibit one or both secondary hues of red and blue. The best varieties of amethyst can be found in Siberia, Sri Lanka, Brazil, and the Far East. The ideal grade is called "Deep Siberian" and has a primary purple hue of around 75–80%, with 15–20% blue and (depending on the light source) a red secondary hue.

Of very variable intensity, the color of amethyst is often laid out in stripes parallel to the final faces of the crystal. One aspect in the art of lapidary involves correctly cutting the stone to place the color in a way that makes the tone of the finished gem

homogeneous. Often, the fact that sometimes only a thin surface layer of violet color is present in the stone or that the color is not homogeneous makes for a difficult cutting.

Amethyst can fade in tone if overexposed to light sources and can be artificially darkened with adequate irradiation.

History: Amethyst was used as a gemstone by the ancient Egyptians and was largely employed in antiquity for intaglio engraved gems.

The Greeks believed amethyst gems could prevent intoxication, while medieval European soldiers wore amethyst amulets as protection in battle in the belief that amethysts heal people and keep them cool-headed.

Geographic Distribution: Amethyst is produced in abundance in Brazil, where it occurs in large geodes within volcanic rocks. Many of the hollow agates of southwestern Brazil and Uruguay contain a crop of amethyst crystals in the interior.

It is also found and mined in South Korea. The largest opencast amethyst vein in the world is in Austria. Much fine amethyst comes from Russia, especially from near Mursinka, where it occurs in drusy cavities in granite. Many localities in south India yield amethyst. One of the largest global amethyst producers is Zambia in southern Africa with an annual production of about 1000 tons.

Amethyst occurs at many localities in the United States. Among these localities include: the Mazatzal Mountain region in Arizona; Red Feather Lakes near Ft Collins, Colorado; Amethyst Mountain, Texas; Yellowstone National Park; Delaware County, Pennsylvania; Haywood County, North Carolina; Deer Hill and Stow, Maine, and in the Lake Superior region of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. Amethyst is relatively common in the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Nova Scotia. The largest amethyst mine in North America is in Thunder Bay, Ontario.



## OBILE FLEXSHAFT STAND

A handy mobile stand for your flex shaft can be made easily and quickly from the base of an old swivel office chair. You can find these chairs being thrown out at office buildings and schools. I just asked the custodian in my building to set one aside for me.



To separate the chair from the wheeled base, simply remove the spring clip from the center bottom. I use a small screwdriver or a pair of pliers.

To make the stand, you'll need two pieces of threaded galvanized steel pipe and a pipe fitting from a hardware store. The first length of pipe is 3/4-inch diameter to fit the hole in most chair bases. The second piece is a length of less expensive 1/2-inch pipe.

The total length of the two pipes should be five feet. I used a two foot length of 3/4-inch pipe and a three foot length of 1/2-inch pipe. They are joined together by a pipe fitting called a 3/4 to 1/2-inch reducing coupler.



## LOCAL METALS SOURCE

Local companies that use sheet metal typically have barrels of scrap copper, brass, and aluminum sheet that they save for recycling. The shop owner/manager will usually let you go through it to select the shapes and thicknesses you want. Prices vary but will generally be close to the wholesale per-pound scrap value. For me at this time, that's \$3 per pound for copper.

I've found it's much cheaper to buy metal this way than ordering from a catalog. There are no shipping charges, and you'll be supporting a local small business in your community.

Remember to bring your work gloves if you try this. Also useful is a thickness gauge. When I asked if they had any 14 gauge, they didn't know. Turns out they measure the thickness of copper by its weight per square foot.

Learn New Jewelry Skills With Brad's How-To-Do-It Books:

[www.Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](http://www.Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith).



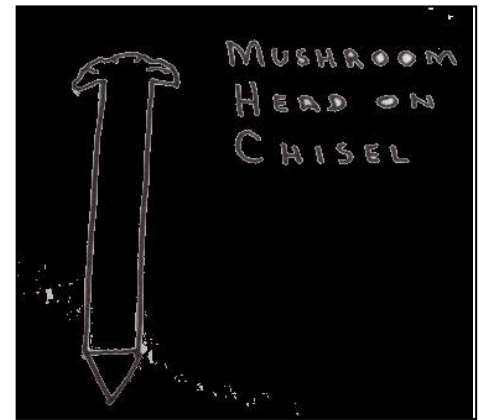
## SUPPORT THE GMSVP BOOTH AT THE MARCH 9-11 TREASURES OF THE EARTH (TOTE) SHOW

(See pg 3)



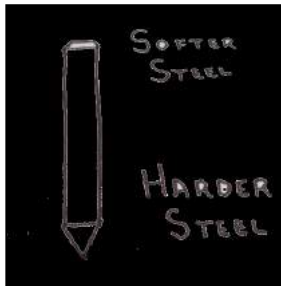


Yes, this is a great time of year for rockhounds to do some serious mushroom collecting. The mushrooms being referred to here are not those collected by mycologists, but those more specific to the rock collecting hobby. We are talking here about the mushrooms that form on the head and end of our rock splitting and gap widening chisels. The diagram to the right illustrates the mushrooms that can grow on our chisels...if we are not careful.



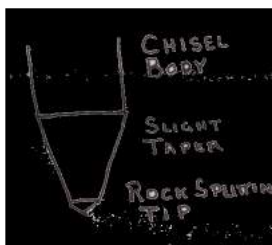
Mushrooms growing on our chisels are indicative of several issues:

- That the chisel is working properly
- That the chisel may be developing dangerous fractures on its struck end
- That there may be little bits of sharp metal flying off from the mushroom forming process, when its head is struck.



Why do mushrooms form? A bit of background information is needed to explain. Good rock hammers are expensive. Rock splitting chisels are much less expensive. If we want a thing to break, we would want the cheap chisel to break rather than the expensive hammer. Well, engineers would rather not have anything break, so what they did was to create a better rock chisel. They designed chisels to have two different hardnesses of the metal used in their making. The sharp end of a chisel is rather harder than the end struck by the hammer. See diagram on left. The reason for there being two hardnesses is simple. The metal in the end of the chisel being struck by the hammer will absorb some of the shock, deform its shape slightly, transfer the energy to the rock being split. If the end of the hammer or chisel was hard and the hammer was hard, it could end up with either the hammer or chisel being damaged. So, as a compromise, chisels are designed to “wear out” by mushrooming and thus protecting the expensive hammer from damage.

So, this is the time of year, as we prepare for the upcoming collecting season, to collect all the mushroom-head chisels. Once collected, we grind down the damaged ends reform them, and recreate new, safe, struck surfaces. So just how does one do that? Many home workshops have a metal grinding machine. Such machines are rather common in most home workshops. We use the grinding wheels to reshape the chisel's end by grinding away the damaged parts to form a new surface. Please see diagram at right. Water is used to cool the metal as it is being ground. Water keeps the metal cool so as not to change its metallurgical hardness or have it lose its “temper.” If your workshop does not have a grinding machine, there are without doubt, members who have such machines and might be willing to help. If not, there are sharpening services available, which specialize in reforming mushroom end chisels.



While one is at it, how are the chisels' business ends, the ends which do the actual splitting? Well, now might be a great time to do a little judicious reshaping there as well. Please see diagram on left.

Sharp chisels, non-mushroomed chisels are safer chisels. “Safer” because the tool can still be used unsafely - a topic to be covered under a future Safety Matters article.

We wish you all a good and safe collecting season. Please remember that your Safety Matters!



Keeping with the theme of what our club (Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Club) has done to attract and keep junior members, I would like to tell you about our Rock Rewards Program.

For many years the club purchased membership in The Mineral of the Month (MOM) Club for any junior member who attended six meetings during the calendar year. In 2015 we had ten members qualify and the negotiated price for a MOM membership was \$100 each. We decided to directly buy mineral specimens for the qualifiers instead, and I wrote an article about each. We gave 15 specimens instead of 10 for about \$50 per junior member.

During that year a couple of members brought before the board that they thought the qualification of meeting attendance was unfair, because it relied on an adult being able and willing to get them to meetings and the junior member didn't really need to do anything. In 2016 we started the Rock Rewards Program, where those who did the minimal would receive the rock specimens and those who did more had the opportunity to earn other items.

Here are the requirements for 2018:

LEVEL ONE: Complete 2 of 6

1. Attend 3 meetings
2. Work at least 2 hours at the show
3. Work at least 2 hours at Rocks4Kids
4. Go on a field trip
5. Complete one AFMS badge activity
6. Bring your findings from a field trip to a meeting.

LEVEL TWO: Complete 1 of 6

1. After a field trip do a short presentation at the Junior meeting
2. Go on 2 field trips (If you use a field trip for level 1 this would mean 3 trips.)
3. Complete 2 exercises to fulfill AFMS badge requirements
4. Complete the CPRMC badge program (If you did this in 2016 or 2017, you may not use it for 2018)

5. Attend 5 club meetings
6. Do a showcase at the show

LEVEL THREE: Complete 1 of 5

1. Write a poem, short article, or do a drawing for the newsletter (It could be about a field trip experience, your favorite specimen, your favorite mineral or anything hobby related)
2. After a field trip do a short presentation at the general meeting
3. Attend 7 club meetings
4. Go on 3 field trips
5. Complete 4 exercises to fulfill AFMS badge requirements

LEVEL FOUR: Not required. Counts as 2 level 3 activities:

An activity of "advanced" quality. (I can't be specific here but examples that would fulfill this from 2016 was Isabella Brandon being a presenter at lapidary night and (2017) doing a presentation at Rocks4Kids and Trent substituting for Betsy as the Junior Program Leader. This could also be something done in the community to further the hobby.)

Some of the extras that can be earned are: hard hat, safety vest, gold pan, sieve/screen box, rock chisel, "black light" flashlight, rock hammer, and long wave "black" light.

The more expensive the item, the more required to earn it.

Since initiating this program, junior attendance at field trips has increased and we have had articles and drawings submitted to the newsletter. Some of the articles have won awards in the EFMLS and AFMS BEAC competition.

Of course this would need to be modified to meet your clubs activities. If you would like to see this year's booklet (sent to parent/sponsor of every junior member ) let me know and I will have it e-mailed to you. It includes what activities are needed to win what extras and has a section for the member to keep track of the activities they have done.

## Field Trip—Miocene and Pliocene Fossil Collection along the James River (near Surry, VA)

**Please let Lisa Cumming (lcumming1223@gmail.com), if you would like to attend this field trip.**

The Mountain Area Gem and Mineral Association (M.A.G.M.A.) has invited GMSVP to participate in another field trip at the Pipsico Boy Scout Camp Reservation near Surry, VA. Collecting will only be allowed on Saturday, April 7th.

**Date:** Saturday, April 7th

**Time:** 9 AM until dark (Note: Low tide is 1 PM.)

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

**Guidance within Boy Scout Camp:** When you get to the camp, bear right of the building in front of the camp. From there, you will go through a gate and make a left turn at the sign for the Camp Lions. After you go over a bridge, park your car at a parking lot on the right. Follow the signs to the beach, where you will sign a release and pay the collection fee.

Campers may arrive on Friday night, April 6th. There are cabinettes available with electricity but no running water. Three cabins are available with full facilities. Tent camping is also allowed. Tents may be set up in campsite 4. There are latrine facilities and water on the site. Showers may be available at the pool area. All overnight campers must exit the camp by 9 AM, Monday, April 9th.

**Details:** Rockhounds will experience easy collecting along nearly a 1-mile long riverbank and shoreline of molluscan fossils of Miocene and Pliocene epochs, shark teeth, whale bones, corals, and more.

Sunblock and bug spray are highly recommended, as well as bottles of water and snacks. Please bring your own bags and tools for collecting.

**Collecting Rules:** All previous collecting rules still apply.

- Everyone must sign a liability release form upon arrival.
- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on the property.
- Parking in designated areas only. No parking of vehicles in the campsites. You must park in the parking area after unloading gear.
- No climbing steep bank areas.
- Hand tools only.
- Swimming is prohibited in the river.
- No pets.

### **Fees:**

- \$5.00 per person to collect or tent camp
- Cabin Rental: \$75
- Cabinette Rental: \$20

Information on Mountain Area Gem and Mineral Association (M.A.G.M.A.): <http://www.wncrocks.com/magma/>





- Our new GMSVP president, Vinton Feanny, called the meeting to order.
- Discussed scheduled and potential field trips. MAGMA has scheduled a field trip to the Pipsico Boy Scouts of America Camp on April 7th.
- The Treasures of the Earth (TOTE) show is March 9 – 11 in Virginia Beach. Volunteers are needed to pick up and drive the truck, load and unload the truck, set up and take down the booth and rock saws at the TOTE show, sell and cut geodes, share about our club with booth visitors, and demonstrate various craft items. Contact Vinton if you have any questions and/or to volunteer.
- Our president invited anyone with suggestions for new programs or activities to e-mail your ideas to her.
- Our club Treasurer, Gary Bergtholdt, reported that all bills for last year have been paid. A new projector has been purchased for our club programs.
- Gary announced that tonight we have a paid raffle. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 chances for \$5. There were two gem trees and several specimens as prizes.
- The GMSVP budget for the new year will not be presented tonight, because some items were identified that needed to be corrected.
- The program tonight was presented by Greg Hajos and Ingrid Carlberg about their recent visit to a fossil dig near Gray, Tennessee. The location is near the Tennessee-Virginia border. It was discovered, when the state was widening a highway. The Tennessee governor had the highway diverted around the fossil dig. Paleontologists identified that it was a sink hole that filled with water in which many animals were trapped and drowned. The fossil dig has been exceptional, because many of the skeletons have been complete. More information can be found at The Natural History Museum, Eastern Tennessee State University, Gray, Tn., <http://gfsm.handsonmuseum.org>.

Minutes prepared by David Scharff

February 7, 2018

/ original signed /



President's Day—February 19th

THE TAR HEEL GEM & MINERAL CLUB PRESENTS



THE FOURTY SECOND ANNUAL CAPITAL AREA GEM & MINERAL SHOW  
Kerr Scott Building, Fairgrounds, Blue Ridge Road, Raleigh, NC

April 6, 7 & 8 2018

FREE	Friday 3:00 – 8:00	FREE
PARKING	Saturday 10:00 – 6:00	ADMISSION
	Sunday 10:00 – 5:00	

CLUB AREAS

Geodes	Fossils	Ring Sizing
Hospitality	Findings	Finished Jewelry
Silent Auction	Gemstones	Mineral Specimens
Demonstrations	Rough Material	Mineral Identification

CUT HERE

Complete to be eligible for the daily raffle prizes. Only one entry per person, per day, will be eligible.

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

## Visit a Show

Source: EFMLS News Volume 65, Number 5, March 2018 & SFMS Lodestar December 2017

March 3-4: 55th annual Earth Science Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Delaware Mineralogical Society. University of Delaware – Wilmington Campus, Arsh Conference Center; 2800 Pennsylvania Ave (Rt 52), Wilmington, DE 19806. Info: [www.delminsociety.net](http://www.delminsociety.net)

March 3-4: 47th Annual Show & Sale sponsored by the Lapidary & Mineral Society of Central, CT. Maloney High School, 121 Gravel St; Meriden, CT. Info: [MeridenMineralClub@gmail.com](mailto:MeridenMineralClub@gmail.com)

March 24-25: 2018 Mineral Treasures and Fossil Fair sponsored by the Philadelphia Mineral Society & Delaware Valley Paleontological Society. LuLu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA (PA Turnpike exit 333, or I-476, exit 20). Info: [www.phillyrocks.org](http://www.phillyrocks.org) or [cleibold@verizon.net](mailto:cleibold@verizon.net).

March 24-25: 49th Annual Gem and Mineral Show sponsored by the Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club. Wysox Vol. Fire Co Social Hall, 111 Lake Rd; Wysox, PA. Info: [www.chehannarocks.com](http://www.chehannarocks.com)

April 6-8: Tar Heel Mineral Club Annual Show and EFMLS/AFMS Convention, Raleigh, NC. AFMS Annual Meeting - Thursday April 12th. EFMLS Annual Meeting - Friday April 13th. AFMS/EFMLS Awards Banquet - Saturday, April 14th. Breakfast with the Editors & Webmasters - Sun. April 15th. Info: [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)

April 7-8: 45th Annual Mineral, Gem, Jewelry & Fossil Show. New Haven Mineral Club. Amith Regional Middle School, 1 Ohman Ave, Orange, CT. Info: [www.newhavenmineralclub.org](http://www.newhavenmineralclub.org).

April 14: 14th Annual Earl & Malvina Packard Rock, Gem, & Mineral Show. Southeastern New Hampshire Mineral Club. Dover Veterans Community Center, 156 Back River Rd, Dover, NH. Info: Brian: 207-710-6254 or [cshore108@yahoo.com](mailto:cshore108@yahoo.com).

April 14-15: 20th Annual North Jersey Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show. No. Jersey Mineralogical Society. Midland Park High School, 250 Prospect St, Midland Park, NJ.

April 14-15: 35th Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show sponsored by the Maine Mineralogical & Geological Society. St. Joseph's College, 278 Whites Bridge Rd; Standish, ME. Info: [www.mainemineralclub.org](http://www.mainemineralclub.org).

April 28-29: Memphis Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry Show "The Earth Wide Open." Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society. Memphis International Agricenter, 7777 Walnut Grove Road, Memphis, TN. Web: <http://www.TheEarthWideOpen.com>. Show Chair James Butchko, 901 743-0058, Dealer Chair WC McDaniel, 901-274-7706.

May 19: 29th Annual Chesapeake Gem, Jewelry & Fossil Show. Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Society. Ruhl Armory, Towson, MD. Info: [chesapeakegem@gmail.com](mailto:chesapeakegem@gmail.com)

June 2-3: Gemfest 2018 (25th Annual Mineral, Gem, Jewelry and Fossil Show) sponsored by the Wayne County Gem & Mineral Club. Greater Canandaigua Civic Center, 250 N Bloomfield Rd, Canandaigua, NY. Info: [fredmhaynes55@gmail.com](mailto:fredmhaynes55@gmail.com) or [www.wcgmcc.org](http://www.wcgmcc.org).

July 28-29: 39th Annual Champlain Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Burlington Gem & Mineral Club. Tuttle Middle School, 500 Dorset St; So. Burlington, VT. Info: [www.burlingtongemandmineralclub.org/show.html](http://www.burlingtongemandmineralclub.org/show.html).

**If you have not already done so, please pay your 2018 GMSVP membership dues. Submit the membership form with payment to PO Box on the form. Here's a [link to the GMSVP membership form](#).**

## 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.