



THE VIRGINIA PEN



GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY OF THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA

September 2018

President's Corner

Vinton Feanny

Special Points of Interest:

- Willis Mountain Kyanite Field Trip, September 29
- GMSVP Board Meeting, October 1
- GMSVP Monthly Meeting/ Rock Swap October 4
- Graves Mountain Rock Swap & Dig, October 5- 7
- RGMS Auction, October 9
- Treasures of the Earth (TOTE) Show, October 12 -14
- Pipsico Fossil Field Trip, October 27th
- RGMS Fall Rock Swap & Sale, Nov 10
- Northern VA Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show, November 17-18

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Summer is drawing to a close, and I trust that it was an eventful one. Fall is upon us and the Club is looking forward to new and exciting things. We will be nominating a new president and board at the November membership meeting. Please talk with any of the current board members at the next meeting (October), if you would like to volunteer for any position (board or a particular committee).

With the weather on Saturday, September 8th being so unpredictable, the Club's picnic was cancelled. I am sure we were all looking forward to this picnic to socialize with other club members, use the club's lapidary equipment, and have a very lively rock swap and sale of specimens and jewelry. The Rock Swap and sale of goods will be happening at our October club meeting!!

ROCK SWAP - For the October 4th meeting, please plan on bring in your favorite rocks to show (bragging rights), rocks to swap, items of interest to sell, etc. I am sure this will be an exciting and entertaining meeting for us all. If you are participating the rock swap, please arrive early to help set up the various tables that will be needed.

KYANITE FIELD TRIP - Please note that there is a field trip planned to Willis Mountain for kyanite on Saturday, September 29th. I understand that new material will be available. All mandatory safety equipment will be required for each member going and all of it will be checked at the mandatory meeting at the mine. Please communicate directly with me at feannyvin@gmail.com or call me at 757 483-0180, if you are interested in going. I have to know who is going by September 16th as a list has to be submitted to the mine. (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)

Vinton Feanny

(Cont'd from prior page.) There is a limit of 150 people and that includes all the clubs invited. Safety gear information can be found in our August newsletter.

TOTE SHOW – October 12-14, 2018, Virginia Beach Convention Center. A few of our regular volunteers will not be available to assist for this show. That leaves us terribly shorthanded. We absolutely need at least 6 new volunteers (especially for the Thursday, October 11th, loading and unloading of the truck and on Sunday, October 14th, for the loading and unloading of the truck). We simply cannot do this, the Club's biggest money maker, without additional volunteers this time. Please see me, Gary or Walter to volunteer at the October meeting.

The GMSVP Stickers are here! The stickers will be distributed at the October Club meeting. BE SURE TO GET YOURS.

Happy hunting rockhounds! Vinton

GMSVP October 4th Meeting—Rock Swap!

Vinton Feanny

The October 4th GMSVP meeting will be our annual rock swap. As always, members and guests are welcome. **NOTE: The rock swap takes the place of the regular monthly meeting (same location as our regular meeting). Come early to help set up the tables and to display your "treasures."**

The purpose of the rock swap is to share some rocks, handmade jewelry, 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:

- ◆ 7 – 7:30 PM: Setup, perusal of available items for sale or swap, and social (eating/chatting)
- ◆ 7:30 – ~8:30 PM: Rock Swap. (Cash only. Bring small currency, if possible, to facilitate purchasing of items.)

Upcoming Pebble Pups Programs

Christine Hempley

- Here's the planned Pebble Pups activities for the rest of 2018.
- Oct: Sand, Sand Everywhere
 - Nov: Sand Collection and Project
 - Dec: Pups News/Awards

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Some of our regular volunteers will not be able to help at the October Treasures of the Earth (TOTE) Show, so we have an

even a greater need for our members to help with this important club activity. Volunteers can sign up by contacting Vinton Feanny at:

FeannyVin@gmail.com.



GMSVP once again will have a booth at the TOTE Show being held at the Virginia Beach Convention Center on October 12th thru 14th. 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 of our club, get to know other members, 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 the equipment's proper use and safety for new rockhounds. Volunteers have ample time to also see the show.



HELP NEEDED:

Please volunteer to help!

Thursday, October 11th:

- ◇ **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 the Virginia Beach Convention Center at 1:30 - 2 PM).
- ◇ **~1:30 to 2 PM:** Truck unloading and GMSVP booth/ equipment setup at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. Booth and equipment setup takes about 3 hours; more volunteers, less time.

Friday, October 12th to Sunday, October 14th: During the show, GMSVP booth/equipment will have four areas that need manning: demonstrations, education/youth programs, geode sales, and geode/slab cutting.

Sunday, October 14th:

- ◇ 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.

NOTES: Members are reminded that: (1) we get free access to the show (bring your GMSVP membership card); (2) we are not competing with the other vendors or clubs, and (3) *if a club member volunteers 4 hour of their time during the weekend at the booth and either helps with equipment loading and booth setup on Thursday or equipment breakdown and storage on Sunday, you can buy any geode for half price (and we will cut it for you too!)*



Questions should be directed to Vinton Feanny at:

FeannyVin@gmail.com.

EFMLS Wildacres 2019

Steve Weinberger, EFMLS Wildacres Chair and Helen Serras-Herman, Wildacres Speaker Liaison

Source: EFMLS News, Volume 65, Number – October 2018

As I write this, the Fall 2018 EFMLS Workshop at Wildacres session is in progress. Although we have a small group, it's a close-knit one whose interests include learning new skills, hearing excellent talks by our Speaker-in-Residence Alfredo Petrov, and enjoying the company of a lovely group of like-minded hobbyists.

We've made some changes to our group of committee members who help guide and plan our session. Most notable for now is the replacement of Bruce Gaber as our speaker-liaison. Bruce has admirably handled the task of procuring speakers since 2007 and has arranged an interesting roster for us. Bruce's interests have changed and he asked to be relieved of this task. Thank you Bruce for a job well done!

Filling his shoes will be Helen Serras-Herman. Many of you already know Helen as a speaker at Wildacres, a gem artist (Gem Art Center) and from various gem and mineral shows including AGTA and the Tucson Gem & Mineral Show.

When asked, Helen graciously accepted and immediately began working on our 2019 speakers!

Adding to the excitement of bringing Helen on board, is a recent phone call from the Wildacres Foundation giving us our spring 2019 dates! They will be May 20 – 26.

Here's what Helen tells us about our tentative speakers for the spring and fall sessions:

"Sending warm greetings to all EFMLS Wildacres Retreat Workshop attendees! As many of you know, I am the new Speaker-in-Residence Program coordinator for the EFLMS Spring and Fall Sessions at Wildacres, and I have some terrific news to share with all of you.



The Spring 2019 Speaker-in-Residence will be **Renée Newman**, and the Fall 2019 Speaker-in-Residence tentatively will be **Elise A. Skalwold**. I am thrilled that they have both accepted my invitation to be our 2019 Speakers-in-Residence. They are both terrific and will give some new blood to our Wildacres sessions, as they are both new to Wildacres. They are both acclaimed in their fields, very well respected within the trade community, and are internationally sought after speakers for gemological conferences and mineralogical symposia. They are great presenters and authors. Here are some biographical notes for Reneé.

Renée Newman is a graduate of the University of California at Santa Barbara, and a graduate gemologist from the Gemological Association of America (GIA). She was first exposed to beautiful gems while working as an international tour director in Asia, South America, and the South Pacific. She worked as a gemologist at a wholesale firm in Los Angeles and acquired a wealth of knowledge on diamonds, colored stones, and pearls.

Renée is famous for her consumer guide books to buying gems. Her first one on diamonds was published in 1989. For her fourteen-to-date published books Renée Newman uses many photos from designers, lapidaries, jewelry artists, and gem dealers, always giving credit and publicity to them, but she also takes many photographs herself. Please visit her website for more info at <http://www.reneenewman.com/index.htm>.



The Best SWAP On the East Coast

Editor's Note: This article was reprinted from the December 2016, The Virginia Pen, with permission of the RGMS Editor.

Source: RGMS' The Collecting Bag, Vol 56, Issue 12, December 2016

The 25th Annual Richmond Swap (and Sale) was held on Saturday November 12, 2016 in the

Meeting Hall adjacent to the Ridge Baptist Church Hall in the western suburbs of Richmond. We had perfect fall weather - clear, sunny and a bit chilly. There were swappers both outside and inside the small building. Outside swappers had much more room for display - several swapped out of the bed of their pickup truck - others brought and set up 5 or more tables. Inside swappers were limited to 2 tables, which was tight, but it was nice and warm.



There were about 35 people who rented tables or spaces, so there was plenty of variety. Lots of mineral specimens, a good deal of jewelry, some lapidary and a surprising array of fossils including local petrified wood, sharks teeth, whale vertebrae and coral. One of the more unusual swappers had both of his tables covered with

beautiful, high quality agates - a real treat for agate lovers.

One of the especially neat things about this event were the many long time members of the RGMS (Richmond Gem and Mineral Society) who brought in some of their older material from classic Virginia locations to swap. There were excellent specimens from all over Virginia. In fact, the quality of specimens from everywhere was generally high.

RGMS also had two tables of specimens from the Sandra Childers collection for sale. Sandra, who had been a very active member for many years, had donated her entire collection to the club after her recent death. Thanks to Andy Dietz and Rudy Bland for organizing, relabeling and pricing Sandra's splendid collection. Their help allowed the club to benefit from the proceeds, while giving everyone the opportunity to purchase some really nice specimens.

Good deals as well as true bargains were to be found everywhere. I was stunned to see what Dave Hennessey (NOVA club) snagged for just \$20 - an egg sized clear topaz crystal from the Morefield Mine in Amelia, Virginia. He plans to have Dr. Lance Kearns from JMU (James Madison University) check it out to determine if it is correctly labelled. If so, wow - that was the bargain of the century!

Throughout the day, attendance was generally very good, with the peak from about 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. There were lots of kids and families as well as older adults. And there were many folks from other area clubs. I saw rock club members from Northern Virginia, Washington (DC), Montgomery County (MD), and from Lynchburg (VA).

The dealers have always been encouraged to give specimens to kids, which is great because it promotes our wonderful hobby to future generations. Some of these little guys (and girls) were requesting to swap throughout the day. Two brothers about 8 and 10 years old and their sister about 12 years old were especially persistent. Their general approach was to get something from one dealer and then try to swap it for something better with another dealer. They were hilarious. The two young boys came back to me repeatedly, asking to swap various items. They both had their sights on some magnetic balls (called zingers) that when tossed into the air alternately repel and attract with a buzzing sound. I finally gave them other specimens to bribe them to leave me alone. It did not help - they were both back in less than 5 minutes desiring to swap. Their older sister (she visited me at least 10 times) finally pestered me enough so that I relented and swapped her a pair of zingers for an agate specimen. About an hour later, she came back holding up three bags full of rocks, gleefully explaining that she had swapped for all of them without spending any money. (Cont'd on next page.)



The Best SWAP On the East Coast

Source: RGMS' The Collecting Bag, Vol 56, Issue 12, December 2016

(Cont'd from prior page.) Watch out - someday, these little folks will become big time wheeler-dealers.



Rudy Bland

If you missed this event, you missed a great show. It is well organized and fun and productive. Try to make the effort to attend next year --- it is always held on the second Saturday in November. You will be glad you did.

Thanks to Dave Lines for this review and photos!



Fossil Spindle Shell



Fall Auction, October 9th, 7 PM

Fall Rock Swap and Sale, November 10 (Time TBD)

Location: Ridge Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. 1515 Eastridge Road, Richmond, VA 23229

New GMSVP Member—Welcome New Rockhounds!

There were no new members during the past month. The Stuffel family renewed their membership.

The Fall Picnic replaced the regular meeting. No monthly minutes were prepared.

If you have a friend that might like to join our club, please let them know that they can join by coming to a meeting or by submitting a membership form. Here's a [link to the GMSVP membership form](#).



Last 2018 Show Date

October 12 - 14

(VA Beach Convention Center)



GMSVP October Meetings

Board Meeting: October 1st, 7 PM

Monthly Meeting: October 4th, 7 PM

Sandy Bottom Nature Park's Nature Center

Gem Tree Workshop

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



Safety First – Ticks, Chiggers, Mosquitoes, Oh My!

Source: EFMLS News, Volume 65, Number – October 2018

Ellery Borow, AFMS Safety Chair



Ticks, chiggers, mosquitoes, fire ants, black flies, scorpions, venomous snakes, poison ivy earthquakes, volcanos, flashfloods, and excessive heat -oh my! Pretty much anywhere a rock collector goes, one will find something in the area that needs special attention. That something can be a little thing or a big thing, but still a thing which should, for safety sake, be addressed and not ignored.

We collectors check maps, monitor tire pressure, bring water, update medical aid kits, and research what mineral might be found in the area. We might be well advised to also check into things which might bug us on our trips.... things such as bugs and bears and storms and snakes.

Fire ant bites are not fun. Mosquitoes and ticks are transmission vectors for more and more diseases. Weather patterns are changing. For these and other local conditions for which the well prepared collector should be aware, there are numerous sources of data. NOAA monitors weather conditions, state and local health services monitor area insect populations, and even the USGS has websites which report on earthquake and volcanic activity.

Although rain in the mountains and the resulting flash flood 6 miles away could isolate our vehicle, knowledge of how long a tick takes to transmit Lyme Disease, how to prepare for a venomous snake in the trail, and precautions concerning fresh bear tracks in the area all take time to research and understand, the well prepared collector is a safer collector. It is, in this time of internet, far easier and less time consuming than yesteryear to be prepared and be safe. Truly, there is sometimes too much information out there to review it all.

When traveling, most rock collectors bring at least the basics - maps, water, food, medical kit, personal protective equipment, and so on. Besides the basics, it is the wise collector who prepares for any additional hazards the area has to offer. Such additional protections might be as simple as bringing an extra strong mosquito repellent.

Please don't let little flying things bug you. Your safety matters.

Updating Our List of Active Kids Programs

Jim Brace-Thompson, AFMS Juniors Program Chair

Source: AFMS Newsletter, Volume 71, Number 8, September 2018

Our American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) Future Rockhounds of America Badge Program offers tangible rewards for kids to work towards in the form of badges they can earn as outlined our Badge Manual (http://amfed.org/fra/fra_badge.htm). A number of clubs across America have taken advantage of this program, which is provided ENTIRELY FREE courtesy of the AFMS Endowment Fund!

In an effort to update our records, I recently sent a mass e-mail to 171 clubs that have utilized this program within the past decade. About a dozen of my e-mails resulted in auto-response "undeliverable" bounce-backs. About double that number resulted in great responses from clubs that use and enjoy the program and that look forward to continuing. If you belong to a club that has used the program in the past or that has an interest in using it going forward, please contact me (jbraceth@roadrunner.com), and I can provide full program details.

I'd like to remind everyone of our Patricia Egolf Rock Pals Program, whereby we encourage clubs with kids programs to exchange a box of rocks from their local area for a box of rocks from kids in other parts of the country. On our website (http://amfed.org/fra/rock_pals.htm) we list clubs that have expressed interest in participating, but that list is now woefully out-of-date. When I e-mailed our list of 171 clubs, I also asked about any that are interested in participating so that we can update our website. I, personally, know of at least four interested clubs. Might your club be interested, as well? If so, please contact me! I hope to edit and update the AFMS web page for this particular program by the end of summer to list interested clubs and pertinent contacts with names, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers. Here's to updating our Juniors Program records to better connect us all in our effort toward seeing that our youngest members can enjoy our hobby while having fun!

SETTING A RIVET

Riveting is usually done with a cross peen hammer, but I've found it's a lot easier for me to hit the rivet wire when using a small ball peen - and the smaller the better. Shown here is one I typically use. It's about 3/8-inch diameter on the back of a chasing hammer, but I've been thinking that a 3/16-inch ball might be even better. Look for a yard sale hammer you can modify to work.



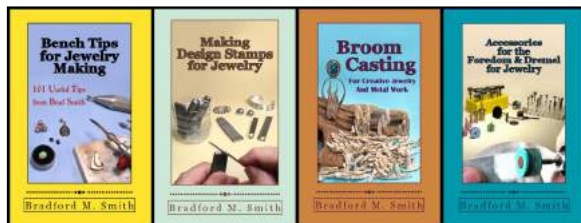
SHEET WAX WITH ADHESIVE

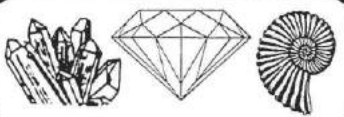
While shopping in the Los Angeles jewelry district for supplies for our class, I found a new product that may interest some of you. Often before casting, I want to increase the thickness of a model by adding a layer of wax on the back side. For instance, models like a leaf or a flower petal do not cast well unless you add a little extra thickness. The problem is trying to apply a coating of wax that's smooth and even.

The new product I found is an easily moldable sheet wax with an adhesive coating. This lets me easily add thickness to a very thin model. With a leaf, just press it onto the wax, trim excess wax around the outer edges, and then gently bend the sandwich to the contour you would like. The wax is available in a number of different thicknesses from about 26 ga to 14 ga.

If interested, my supplier is: Jewelry Tools & Supplies, 412 W. 6th Street #1011, Los Angeles, CA 90014; 213-624-8224; jtstech@sbcglobal.net

For more tips or to learn new jewelry skills, pick up a few of Brad's "How To Do It" Books: www.Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith.





27th Annual GEM, MINERAL AND FOSSIL SHOW

Presented by The Northern Virginia Club, Inc. www.novamineralclub.org
Sponsored by the Dept. of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Earth Sciences at GMU

Date: November 17 & 18, 2018
Place: The Hub Ballroom
George Mason University Campus
Braddock Rd. & Route 123, Fairfax, VA
Hours: Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 10am-4pm
Admission: Adults: \$6, Seniors: \$4, Teens (13-17): \$3
Children 12 & under, Scouts in uniform,
and GMU Students w/valid ID are FREE.

\$1 OFF
Adult admission
with this card
(applies to all adults
+ seniors in your
group)

Demonstrations, Exhibits, and Door Prizes. Mini-mines for children to dig in and get free fossils and minerals.
Over 20 Dealers with Fossils, Minerals, Crystals and Gems for sale.

*Use Parking lot A, enter Lot A from Nottaway River Lane.
Look for our Courtesy Shuttle to Mineral Show*

Fall Picnic Cancelled

Vinton Feanny

I am sorry that we had to cancel our September 8th Fall club picnic. It was a hard decision for the board to make. The consensus was that due to the uncertain weather, it was best to err on the side of safety and cancel the picnic. It is dangerous to hold the picnic with our saws and genies, if there is a good chance of rain.

October will be a busy month for our club. We have the board meeting on October 1st, a Rock Swap at our meeting on October 4th, and our last TOTE Show on October 12 thru 14th!



OFFICIAL COMBINED MINERAL COLLECTING FIELD TRIP
 KYANITE MINING CORP. DILLWYN, VA. – ANNUAL FIELD TRIP
 WILLIS MOUNTAIN KYANITE MINE

Saturday, September 29, 2018 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Notes: Please read carefully and adhere to all signup, safety, and collecting requirements.



1. Sign-up is required. If you want to go but haven't signed up yet, please contact Vinton Feanny **AS soon as possible** at feannyvin@gmail.com. If you need to cancel after sign up, we need to notify the organizers as space may be limited due to the expanded list of clubs now participating in this annual event.
2. Vinton Feanny is our leader for this field trip and has to send a list of our participating club members to the mine management by September 24th. There is a limit of 150 collectors from all clubs for this event, so there should be room for everyone who wants to attend.
3. If the mine is working, we may have to limit our collecting areas.

SAFETY: Everyone must arrive at the office parking lot *no later than 8:30 AM* to sign the release form and hear the required safety briefing. *Each Club field trip leader, or their appointed replacement, will act as safety observer while in the mine and will be expected to be on the lookout for and correct all safety infractions from any collector from any club.* Keep in mind that this site is one of the very few that are still open for collecting. Not obeying all the safety rules will cause this site to be closed to all future collecting.

DRIVING FROM THE TIDEWATER AREA (non-toll route): I-64 W and take exit 200 for I-295 toward Washington; take exit 53A to merge onto I-64 W toward Charlottesville; take exit 175 for VA-288 S toward Chesterfield; take the U.S. 60/Midlothian Turnpike exit toward Midlothian/Powhatan and keep left at the fork to continue toward US-60 W/Midlothian Turnpike; turn left onto US-15 S; turn left onto Willis Mountain Plant Lane, Dillwyn, VA 23936; and stop at the stone mine office and park out of the way as not to block traffic. Many trucks may be using the road. Do not park along Rt. 15.

ASSEMBLY TIME: Everyone will meet at the mine office for sign-in and safety instruction so be there ***no later than 8:30am***. While you're waiting, be sure to enjoy the beautiful blue kyanite bolder in the front yard from the old closed Baker Mountain. Barricades will block you from driving in restricted areas. Access to plant operations is prohibited.

COLLECTING: Willis Mountain is what's known as a monadnock. The kyanite exposure resisted weathering and, as the surrounding area was eroded and weathered away, the mountain outcrop was left standing. This is very much like the famous Graves Mountain kyanite mine in Georgia. The center of the mountain has been mostly mined away. We should be able to find plenty of white kyanite blades in the massive kyanite quartzite; pyrite; quartz; hematite with some iridescence, red mica, green mica, apatite and possibly some blue kyanite and pale green trolleite. Some of the white kyanite and quartz here have a beautiful light blue fluorescence and the apatite is yellow so bring your short wave lamp and blackout cloth.



(Cont'd on next page.)

OFFICIAL COMBINED MINERAL COLLECTING FIELD TRIP (CONT'D)

KYANITE MINING CORP. DILLWYN, VA. – ANNUAL FIELD TRIP

WILLIS MOUNTAIN KYANITE MINE

Saturday, September 29, 2018 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM

NOTE: If you have any medical condition that would put you in any danger, do not attempt this trip. For your own safety, let your field trip leader or collecting buddy know if you have any medical condition that could be a problem for you.

EQUIPMENT: Standard mine safety is required and are described below. If you do not have all the required safety equipment, you will not be allowed to enter the quarry.

- A hard hat with a mfg. date of 5 years or less (everyone must have an approved hard hat, no bicycle helmets). Small heads can wear a ball cap under the hard hat.
- Safety glasses
- Respiratory protection from rock dust you may encounter
- A pair of wheel chocks either purchased, homemade, or even a rock is acceptable. Every time you leave the car, turn off the engine, put in park and apply the hand brake and wheel chocks.
- ONLY STEEL OR MSHA (Federal Mine Safety and Health Act) APPROVED REINFORCED FIBERGLASS TOED BOOTS WILL BE ALLOWED, THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS!!! No low quarters or sneakers, even if they have steel or composite toes.
- Also required are long pants, gloves, hammer and chisels, wrapping paper, buckets, water as it is very important to stay hydrated as it may be very hot. Be prepared for windy, hot, or wet weather. We will be on the mountain top, and it's always windy. We can drive to the designated collecting area, so hand trucks should not be needed. Bring a camera, as the view is awesome.

AFTER THE DIG SOCIAL: This year, the pavilion beside the office will be available immediately after the dig ends at 1 PM to relax, cool off eat your lunch. This will also be a social get together so that we can have a chance to become better acquainted with the members of our rock club neighbors and to provide some time to relax before their long ride home. You might want to bring your own lawn chair. There may also be other groups there as invited guests of Kyanite Mining. There might be a brief program on the mine and lab tour.

AGE LIMIT: There is no age limit, but no toddlers please. All children must be signed for, closely supervised by an adult and never left unattended. They must also have all the required safety equipment. **No Exceptions!!!** If parents have any questions about what is acceptable for your child, please call Vinton Feanny and she will get clarification from David Ball, Home 434-983-9595 or Cell 703-256-0097.

WEATHER: The trip will be canceled for safety concerns in case of hard rain or a thunderstorm. Call Vinton to confirm if there is any question.

GMSVP POINT OF CONTACT: Vinton Feanny, feannyvin@gmail.com, cell 757-640-3837.

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

Please let Vinton Feanny (feannyvin@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 a bonus field trip at the Pipsico Boy Scout Camp Reservation near Surry, VA., on October 27th.

Date: October 27th

Time: 9 AM until dark

Location: Pipsico Boy Scout Camp Reservation, 57 Pipsico Road, Spring Grove, Virginia 23991

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, October 26th. 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, October 29th.

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, buckets, 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.
- Speed limit on camp road must be obeyed .
- 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/magma%20join%20club.htm>. M.A.G.M.A. point of contact: Bill Stine at: rockdoctor48@wmconnect.com



MAGMA FIELD TRIPS

Source: <http://www.wncrocks.com/magma/magmaupcomingevents.htm>

Graves Mountain Rock Swap and Dig, October 5th - 7th, 2018 Lincolnton, Georgia

Official Field Trip of the Mountain Area Gem and Mineral Association (THIS DIG IS OPEN TO ALL CLUBS and ROCKHOUNDS!)

The mountain will be open to collecting from 8 AM to 6 PM each day. All attendees must stop at the welcome table to sign a liability release and make a contribution to help with the cost of providing porta johns and golf carts. The dig will end and everyone must be off the mountain by 6 PM each day.

There will be an area in the parking lot for vendors to sell and trade minerals. If you would like to setup a booth, contact Jr. Norman at the phone number listed below. Hot food will be available for purchase on the mountain all three days. Cold drinks will also be available for purchase.

I will be setup at the dig with the Jacquot & Son Mining booth selling minerals and fossils. I will be setting up my booth along with other vendors on Thursday before the dig. All MAGMA members are welcome to come in on Thursday and collect as long as they plan to attend at least one other day of the show, Friday, Saturday or Sunday.

GRAVES MOUNTAIN CODE OF CONDUCT!

- Park your vehicle in the designated area at the end of the paved access road.
- ALL pets must be kept under control and on a leash.
- The caretaker, Jr. Norman has final and absolute say as to where you may safely work.
- Ladders or power tools of any kind will not be allowed. (HAND TOOLS ONLY!)
- STAY AWAY FROM ALL HIGH WALLS!
- NO RAPPELLING OFF OF ANYTHING!
- NO ONE IS ALLOWED TO DRIVE THEIR VEHICLE ON ANY PART OF GRAVES MOUNTAIN BEYOND THE PARKING AREA! (The caretaker must accompany anyone driving beyond the parking area!)
- EVERYONE NEEDS TO BE OFF THE MOUNTAIN BY 6:00 p.m. (Absolutely no one is allowed on Graves Mountain after dark.)
- Please protect our ability to field collect at Graves Mountain!

Report violations to: Jr. Norman, Norman C E Wrecking Co, 3333 C E Norman Rd, Lincolnton, GA 30817-3110; 706-401-3173. All reported violations will be held in strict confidence.

DIRECTIONS: From Washington Georgia, drive east 11 miles on SR-378, look for mine entrance on right. From the Hardee's in Lincolnton, Georgia, drive approximately 5-1/2 miles west on SR-378. Look for the sign at the entrance to Graves Mountain on the left side of the road.

Motels and Camping:

- Cullars Inn, Lincolnton, Georgia, 706-359-6161
- Soap Creek Lodge, Clarks Hill Lake, Lincolnton, 706-359-3124
- Elijah Clark State Park, 706-359-3458 / 800-864-7275

Visit a Show

Source: EFMLS News Volume 65, Number 9, October 2018 & SFMS Lodestar August 2018

September 15-16: 53rd Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show sponsored by the Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Club. Harrisburg Consistory (beside the old Zembo building), 2701 N Third St; Harrisburg, PA. INFO: aoberheim3@comcast.net

September 21-23: 51st Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show sponsored by the Shenandoah Valley Gem & Mineral Society. Augusta Expo. 277 Expo Rd, Fishersville, VA.

September: 22-23: Annual Atlantic Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show hosted by the Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore. Howard County Fairgrounds, 2210 Fairgrounds Rd; West Friendship, MD 21794. Info: www.gemcuttersguild.com

September 22-23: 49th Annual Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Mid-Hudson Gem & Mineral Society. Gold's Gym Family Center, 258 Titusville Rd, Poughkeepsie, NY. Info: http://mhvgms.org/annual_show/index.html

October 5-7: Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society annual show sponsored by the Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society. Florida National Guard Armory, 2809 S Fern Creek Ave; Orlando, FL 32806

October 19 – 21: 28th Annual Gem and Mineral Show, Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37923. Info: Travis Paris, taparis@msn.com or Teresa Polly, teresapolly@bellsouth.net

October 19-21: 62nd Annual Desautels Micromount Symposium, The Friends School of Baltimore, 5114 North Charles St; Baltimore, MD 21210. Info: www.balti-moremineralsociety.org/desautels-symposium.html, Registration: BMS, PO Box 302; Glyndon, MD 21071

October 20-21: 45th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jew-elry Show and Sale sponsored by the Kanawha Rock & Gem Club. So. Charleston Community Center, 601 Jefferson Rd; S. Charleston, WV 25309 (just off the Jefferson Rd exit of I-64). Info: Facebook/Kanawha Rock and Gem Club or wvyooper@frontiernet.net.

November 3-4: 59th Annual Gem, Jewelry and Lapidary Arts Show. Host: Tampa Bay Mineral and Science Club. Location: Plant City Strawberry Festival Expo Center, 303 N. Lemon Street, Plant City, Florida. Visit our website at: www.tampabayrockclub.com

November 10-11: Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society 45th Annual Parade of Gems Show. 625 East Hibiscus Blvd. Melbourne, FL 32901. More info; www.canaveral-mgs.com Show Chairman, Don McLamb 570 Seabreeze Drive, Indialantic, FL 32903 321-723-2592, fdjmc@aol.com

November 16-18: Columbia Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show. Columbia Gem and Mineral Society. 206 Jamil Rd, Columbia, SC 29210. More info: www.cgms.rocks

November 17-18: 51st Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Bead and Fossil Show sponsored by the Gem & Mineral So-ciety of the Palm Beaches. So. Florida Fairgrounds Expo Center East; 9067 Southern Blvd, West Palm Beach, FL 33411. Info: Walt Triche 561-626-1031 or wtriche@gmail.com

November 17-18: 27TH Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Northern Virginia Mineral Club. The HUB Ballroom, George Mason University, 4400 University Dr; Fairfax, VA 22030. Info: www.nvamineralclub.org

January 11-13: Pinellas Geological Society Forty-Third Annual Gem, Jewelry and Mineral Show. Central Park Performing Arts Center, Parkside Room, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo, Florida. Contact Person: Leona Feldhausen, (727) 709-3236



AFMS Code of Ethics

(<http://www.amfed.org/ethics.htm>)

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.