



# THE VIRGINIA PEN

GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY OF THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA



March 2019

## President's Corner

Vinton Feanny

### Special Points of Interest:

- GMSVP Meeting, Mar 21
- Emerald Hollow Mine, Mar 30
- Pipsico Fossil Field Trip, Apr 13
- VA Geologic Research Symposium, Apr 18
- TGMS Auction, Apr 19
- MAGMA Graves Mountain Rock Swap & Dig, Apr 26-28
- EFMLS Spring Wildacres Workshop, May 20 - 26
- SFMS William Holland Lapidary Workshop, Jun 9 -14
- Museum of Culpeper History's Dino-Walk, Jul 13



Welcome to all our new members! This year is beginning to look like it will be an exciting and fun-filled, active year.

The March Treasures of the Earth show (TOTE ) was a blazing success. It was the 2nd busiest show for our club. Most important, though, is the fact that we had many, many volunteers showing up to assist in loading and offloading the truck, setting up the booth, operating the saws, and selling geodes. Many, many thanks to all our new volunteers. New club members who showed up on Thursday were rewarded with the few left over boxes of goodies that we received from a 2016 donor. When we clean out the shed later this year, we will have more goodies to share with the volunteers.

The proposed dinosaur walk tickets sold out almost immediately. Michael, our Programs Coordinator, was able to score a ticket which will be placed in the May auction.

Just a reminder, the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (EFMLS) Wildacres Lapidary Workshops are on May 20th - 26th and September 2nd - 8th. Please be sure to read up on the available classes online at: <http://efmls-wildacres.org/index.html>. It is a great way to learn about rocks and minerals, hear a great guest speaker, and enjoy a relaxing time in the mountains. The food is wonderful – maybe a bit much, but very enjoyable nonetheless. Whether you are a newcomer to the lapidary arts and want to learn the basics, or you are experienced and want to learn something new or hone your skills, the Workshop Program has (Cont'd on next page)

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**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

P. O. Box 6424  
Newport News, VA 23602

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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## President's Corner (Cont'd)

Vinton Feanny

(Cont'd from Prior Page) something for you.

### Club Meeting Dates

The Club meeting in March will be held on the third Thursday, March 21st. Please mark your calendar accordingly. The meeting in April will be on April 18<sup>th</sup>. There will be an auction at our May meeting, which is being held on the first Thursday in May, May 2nd. Our annual picnic will be held on May 11th from 10 AM to 4 PM. We should have an exciting 2019!

## GMSVP 2019 Calendar (Subject to Change)

Gary Bergtholdt

- March 21: Club Meeting
- April 18: Club Meeting
- May 2: Club Meeting (Auction)
- May 11: Club Picnic
- June 6: Club Meeting
- June 10: Board Meeting
- July: No Club Meeting
- July 18-21: VA Beach TOTE Show
- August 1: Club Meeting
- September 9: Board Meeting
- September 14: Club Picnic
- October 3: Club Meeting
- Oct 10-13: VA Beach TOTE Show
- November 7: Club Meeting/Elections
- Dec 5 - Holiday Party
- Dec 9: Board Meeting

## February Meeting Program

Michael Griffith

The February meeting highlighted a program on the Crystal Cave in Naica, Mexico. Members found the video on the large crystals and the efforts to explore the cave fascinating.

While pumps worked to keep the caves drained, scientists endured extreme heat and extremely hazardous conditions to explore the cave and collect scientific data for analysis.

(Reference: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cave\\_of\\_the\\_Crystals](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cave_of_the_Crystals))

### Cueva de los Cristales

(Cave of the Crystals)



Gypsum crystals in the Naica cave. Note person for scale

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Thank you, thank you, thank you.

What a wonderful turn out by club members at last week's

Treasures of the Earth (TOTE) Show in Virginia Beach! We couldn't have done it without you. Many club members had opportunities to learn new skills and train in the different jobs needed to run a show. They also got to know their fellow club members as they worked together. Members were able to tour the show and see the wonderful work done by other vendors.



We had larger than normal crowds and sales each day of the show (around 1,200 people came through the doors on Saturday alone). Geode sales were good, and we had many repeat customers.



We saw some very different and beautiful geodes. It was great to see the facial expressions and the smiles of our customers as they opened their geodes for the first time and their excitement as they showed them to us in the sales area. Yes, we are having to place another order for geodes for the other 2019 TOTE shows.



Again, thanks to all who were present. We always need the help of the club members at the show. Even a few hours makes it easier for those who are present and gives them a break. We have two more TOTE shows this year at the VA Beach Convention Center on July 18-21 and October 10-13. Hope to see you there!



**Next Treasures of the Earth Show: VA Beach Convention Center on July 18 - 21**

Brad Goodman will provide a program at the GMSVP March 21st meeting on the newest Mars lander: Mars InSight.

The Red Planet has fascinated humans for centuries. Over the last 60 years, NASA has sent robotic explorers to photograph, land upon, rove over, and otherwise explore the Martian surface. The newest Mars lander, called InSight (Interior Exploration using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport) offers our first glimpse at the interior of the planet perhaps most like our own.

Brad Goodman has been a guest at local science fiction conventions for thirty years. He was a contractor at the NASA Langley Research Center and has worked at the NASA Visitor Center, supported traveling exhibits, and developed presentations and displays for the Science Museum of Virginia. These assignments came as a result of being a space-program fanatic from the earliest days of NASA.

## REGISTRATION OPENS JANUARY 1ST

Source: EFMLS News, Volume 67, Number 1, January 2019

Steve Weinberger, Wildacres Chair

Just a reminder that registration opened January 1st for the Spring (May 20 - 26) and Fall (September 2 - 8) Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (EFMLS) Wildacres Lapidary Workshops. These workshops are always popular and has limited class space to ensure outstanding instruction. We encourage you to register early.

Each session is divided into two parts (called semesters) with a day "off" in the middle to allow participants the chance to do some field collecting, museum visiting, or just exploring the Little Switzerland or Asheville area.

Students are pre-enrolled (based on their choice) in one class for the first semester and another class for the second. Students have opportunities in each to learn new skills and/or produce amazing projects.

Each session also features a "Speaker-in-Residence" who gives six talks related to the hobby and their specialty during the week. Spring will feature author Reneé Newman and fall, Elise Skalwald. Details about both speakers are on our website (<http://efmls-wildacres.org/index.html>).

Cost for each session is \$425 per person which includes room and board as well as semi-private rooms. In addition, there is a modest materials fee for the class or classes that you are enrolled in and of course you get to take home the project or projects your complete.

Consider Wildacres for 2019. It's an experience you'll not soon forget.

See the EFMLS Wildacres website page (<http://efmls-wildacres.org/index.html>) for information on the EFMLS Wildacres Lapidary Workshop program, frequently asked questions, workshop dates, courses, and the speaker-in-residence at the Spring and Fall Workshops, registration form, a video on the workshop, how to contact the organizers, and directions to the site.



The Tidewater Gem and Mineral Society (TGMS) has invited GMSVP members to participate in their Auction at 7 PM on Friday, April 19th. It will be held at their regular meeting location at the Memorial United Methodist Church, 804 Gammon Road, Virginia Beach, VA.

In addition to rocks and things, the auction will include the following lapidary equipment: an 8-inch rotary lap, a homemade by Warren Redford combination 6" saw/buffer, a faceting machine and accessories (Raytech), a centrifugal castor for gold or silver work, a kiln, a beginners faceting machine (older model from Warren Redford), a vibratory lap (older model), and a buffing wheel.



**Jewelry Bench Tips**

Brad Smith, [www.BradSmithJewelry.com](http://www.BradSmithJewelry.com)

**PICKLE PRECAUTIONS**

**MAKE A TEXTURE HAMMER**

An inexpensive hammer can be easily turned into a great texturing tool by grinding a pattern of narrow lines into its face.

The tool I like to use to grind the pattern is a thin separating disc in a Foredom or Dremel. Be sure to hold the hammer and separating disc steady as you carve, and wear those safety glasses to protect your eyes.

For the pattern to work well, a major part of the face needs to be ground away leaving only small areas of high points. That way the high points will have enough force to emboss the pattern into your sheet metal.

My preference is to use small ball peen or cross peen hammers. They are quite inexpensive from tool dealers at swap meets and rock & mineral shows. There is no reason to buy an expensive hammer to experiment with creating your own textures.

And BTW, if you don't like the first pattern you create, simply file or grind it off and try again.

This is just one of the many tips in the new book, "More Bench Tips for Jewelry Making." See a sample chapter at <https://amzn.to/2KCygh4>.

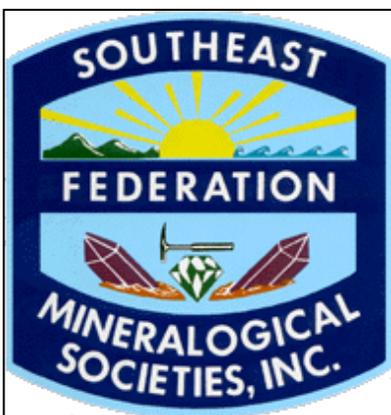


Discover New Jewelry Skills With Brad's "How To Do It" Books at: [www.Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](http://www.Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith).



# Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies 2019 Workshops

Source: <http://sfmsworkshops.com/?p=1>



*Editor's Note: GMSVP is a member of both the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (EFMLS) and the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies (SFMS). Our members are eligible to attend lapidary workshops sponsored by both Federations.*

One of the unique facets of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies (SFMS) is the Workshop Program, which offers SFMS members the opportunity to gather for week-long, hands-on seminars taught by experienced instructors. Whether you are a newcomer to the lapidary arts and want to learn the basics, or you're experienced and want to learn something new or hone your skills, the Workshop Program has something for you.

Looking forward to seeing you! Information on SFMS 2019 workshops and courses are below. The registration form is available on the link in the article title block above.

- Date: June 9 to 14; Location: William Holland; Classes: Beading, Cabochon I, Casting, Chain Loop-n-Loop, Electro-Etching/Wood Inlay, Metal Manipulation/Cold Connection, Opals II, Silver II Fused, Silver I, Silver Wear I & II, and Wire Wrapping (Bracelets Only)
- Date: Aug 19 to 25; Location: Wildacres; Classes: Beginning Casting, Cabochons, Chain Maille, Cold Connections, Layered Colored Pencil Jewelry on Metal, Metalwork Special Projects, and Wire Wrapping
- Date: September 16 to 22; Location: Wildacres; Classes: Advanced Casting, Chain Maille, Cold Connection, Electro-Etching/Wood Inlay, Introduction to Gem Identification, Metal Clay - Tangible Moments, Seed Bead Weaving; Silver 1, and Stone Inlay

## Remaining 2019 TOTE Show Dates

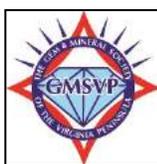
- July 19-21, VA Beach Convention Center
- October 11-13, VA Beach Convention Center



**New GMSVP Members—Welcome  
New Rockhounds! 110 Members!!!**

Steven Ange  
Merrill & Terry  
Bromley

Angie Shipp  
Celeste Small



## GMSVP March Meeting

**Date: March 21st, 7 PM**

**Program: Mars InSight Lander**

**Location: 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).



It has been quite a while since we had any shop safety. The following is from chapter two of the AFMS Safety Manual.

The following safety rules, if followed, will lessen the risk of possible harm or injury. Protect your eyes when chipping or grinding rocks. WEAR PROTECTIVE GLASSES. Run your grinding wheels no faster than the speed recommended by the manufacturer. Do not let your {Ceramic/stone} wheel become water logged. Keep it running until all water has been thrown out; otherwise, it will cause a heavy spot and make your wheel out of balance. Keep your wheel true. It will wear longer and there will be less chance of its parting while in use.

Keep all belt pulleys and belts covered. It may save a finger. Use dop sticks whenever possible. It may save a badly cut finger. A word of warning to those individuals who use dry sanding of their cabochons: Silicosis is a serious disease which is caused by the inhalation of fine silica dust. Use a dust mask or suction blower, or change to wet sanding. Silicosis cannot be cured!

Be careful with your alcohol lamp. It can cause a fire. Keep all containers properly labeled. Putting polishing powders in empty baking powder cans, for instance, without a proper label, can be dangerous. (If you put the polishing powder in an empty baking powder can, your wife could use it with disastrous results).

The use of Oxalic Acid, when properly used, greatly facilitates the polishing of agates. Oxalic Acid is caustic to the skin, as well as a frank poison, if accidentally ingested or inhaled. Also, getting some in the eyes from the spray from the polishing wheels, may cause a burn of the cornea, resulting in impaired eyesight. When using this acid, proper precautions must be taken.

It is advisable to apply the polish to the wheel with a brush. Wear protective glasses. It may be advisable, under certain circumstances, to wear protective gloves. Immediately wash any contact areas of the skin with soap and water. Medical attention may be advisable.

Sulfuric Acid and Nitric Acid are sometimes mixed with polishing compounds when faceting sapphire. They are also used in the polishing of sapphire cabochons on lead laps.

These acids are severe caustics and will cause severe burns if they come in contact with the skin or eyes. In using the techniques above, one must use the utmost precautions. Any contaminated areas must immediately be washed with soap and water. If any gets in the eyes, thoroughly irrigate with water and seek medical attention. The application of a baking-soda pack is often advisable or the sponging with a solution of baking soda in water to the burned area.

The polishing compounds we use today are, as a rule, relatively non-toxic, except to some individuals. The use of detergents added to the polishing powders could cause dermatitis of the hands. This can be eliminated if the offending substance is eliminated.

The use of Epoxy Resins is very irritating to the skin, and severe cases of dermatitis have resulted. This can easily be prevented by not getting the hands in actual contact with the resins. Acetone will remove this, if you should get some resin on the skin. The various cutting oils used in the diamond saws are primary irritants to the skin, and will, in many individuals, produce dermatitis. Also, the fire hazard, in the use of certain cutting oils, must be realized and proper precautions taken. **WARNING TO SILVER-SOLDERING ENTHUSIASTS:** Silver brazing alloy, frequently called silver solder, is an extremely valuable industrial material. It is used for joining metals and alloys such as silver, copper, brass, bronze, stainless steel, carbon steel and dissimilar metal combinations where it is necessary to perform the joining of these metals at low temperatures. Fumes generated during brazing can be a serious hazard. Brazing fluxes generate fluoride fumes when heated. (Cont'd on next page)

(Cont'd from prior page) Cadmium in silver brazing alloys vaporizes when overheated and produces cadmium oxide, a highly toxic substance. If cadmium oxide fumes are inhaled into the respiratory tract, they can cause pulmonary distress, shortness of breath, and in cases of severe exposure, may cause death.

Silver brazing filler metals containing cadmium are: BAg-1, GAg-1a and BAg-2 and BAg3. Since the boiling point of Cadmium is 1412 degrees F., brazing can be carried on safely using Bag-1 and BAg-1a classes of filler metal at temperatures below 1400 degrees F. BAg-2 and BAg-3 have recommended brazing temperatures of 1295 - 1550 degrees F. and 1270 to 1500 degrees F. respectively. Brazing can be carried out - safely - using temperatures below 1400 degrees F. Since temperatures in the upper portion of these ranges can be reached, it is important to provide adequate local exhaust ventilation or, where this is not possible, individual air-supplied respirators. (This article taken from, Working with Silver Solder, Public Health Service Publication No. 1518, U.S. Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare.)

Do not overload electrical outlets. If in doubt, have the circuits checked by an electrician.

Keep switches and motors in a dry place, where the water from the grinding will not splash on them.

Be sure to have all motors and outlets grounded. In case of faulty wiring or short circuit, the ground will absorb the shock -- not you! Standing on a rubber mat will give some protection. Electric shocks can cause death!

Suspicious wires lying on the floor or ground should be avoided -- at home, or on field trips. They may be harmless, but if they are not, beware!

When a person suffers electric shock, it is important to use a stick or other such wooden object to separate him from the source before beginning resuscitation.

## Join us for the 2019 SFMS Workshop

at William Holland

June 9th - 14th, 2019



Please find all the information regarding classes, registration form and payment at our new website... [www.sfmsworkshops.org](http://www.sfmsworkshops.org)

For questions please contact:  
Kristine Robertson, [kristine@kmarella.com](mailto:kristine@kmarella.com),  
863-640-2887



Please let Bo Mulcahy ([bomulcahy@gmail.com](mailto:bomulcahy@gmail.com)) know, if you would like to attend any of the field trips.

- **March 30th - Emerald Hollow Mine, 484 Emerald Hollow Mine Drive, Hiddenite, NC. (<https://www.emeraldhollowmine.com/>)**
  - More than sixty different types of naturally occurring gems and minerals. Including emerald, aquamarine, sapphire, garnet, topaz, amethyst, citrine, rutile, tourmaline, smoky and clear quartz crystals, and Hiddenite
  - If you bring your equipment please note that they don't allow metal tools or any buckets above a gallon in the creek. They allow metal tools for the mine site.
  - **NO DIGGING INTO THE BANKS IS ALLOWED BY CONSEQUENCE OF PASS REVOCATION WITHOUT A REFUND**
  - Costs:
    - ◆ Rental of Equipment: Plastic trowels and sifting screens are available to rent for \$3 per set. Metal tools and 5 gallon bucket are available to rent for \$7 per set.
    - ◆ Sluicing, Creeking, & Digging Combo Pass \$30 per adult (12 yrs & Above); \$10 per child (4 yrs-11 yrs)
    - ◆ Sluicing & Creeking Combo Pass \$20 per adult (12 yrs & Above); \$10 per child (4yrs-11yrs)
    - ◆ Creeking Pass \$12 per Adult (12 yrs & Above); \$7 per child (4 yrs-11 yrs)
- **April 13th - Pipsico Boy Scout Camp Reservation near Surry, Va.** See information on page 10.
- **April 18th - Virginia Geologic Research Symposium, Training Room of the Natural Resources Building, 415 Ray C Hunt Dr, Charlottesville, VA 22903**
- **April 26th - 28th: MAGMA Graves Mountain Rock Swap and Dig, Lincolnton, Georgia.** See information on page 11.
- **July 13th (8 AM - Noon 12 PM): The Museum of Culpeper History's Dino-Walk 2019, Luck Stone Corporation, 18244 Germanna Highway, Culpeper, VA 22701 ([Check Availability](#))**
  - Details: Join the Museum of Culpeper History at the Luck Stone Quarry in Culpeper on Saturday, July 13th, for their Annual Dino-Walk. Discover the largest set of dinosaur footprints discovered in North America right here in Culpeper! More than 215 million years ago, during the Triassic Period, giant beasts roamed the region that we call home today. Then, in 1989, evidence of their existence was discovered at the bottom of the quarry.
  - Purchase your vehicle pass for \$20 for one of our hourly timed tours, beginning at 8 AM. Each pass permits one vehicle to enter, and you can fill your vehicle with as many people as can safely fit! At the beginning of your tour, you will drive through the quarry via an escort and drive to the very bottom of the quarry where you will park approximately 100 yards from the prehistoric ponds and the tracks themselves.
  - The event will be held rain or shine. You should arrive at the Luck Stone Culpeper Quarry about 15 minutes before your scheduled tour time for check-in and to have your vehicle lined up. We look forward to seeing you!

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

***Please let Bo Mulcahy (bomulcahy@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 field trip at the Pipsico Boy Scout Camp Reservation near Surry, VA., on Saturday, April 13th.

**Date:** April 13th

**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 the 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 12th. 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 Noon, Sunday, April 14th.

**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 or digging steep bank areas.
- Hand tools only.
- Swimming is prohibited in the river.
- No pets.

**Fees:**

- \$5 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](mailto:rockdoctor48@wmconnect.com)





## Graves Mountain Rock Swap and Dig April 26th - 28th, 2019; Lincolnton, Georgia

Official Field Trip of the Mountain Area Gem and Mineral Association (MAGMA).  
MAGMA POC: Bill Stine at: [rockdoctor48@wmconnect.com](mailto:rockdoctor48@wmconnect.com)

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/donation 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.

<http://www.wncrocks.com/magma/>

Join MAGMA for \$15/yr individual or \$25 Family. <http://www.wncrocks.com/magma/magma%20join%20club.htm>

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. at the phone numbers listed below. Hot food and drinks will be available for purchase on the mountain all three days.

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 on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday.

**THIS DIG IS OPEN TO ALL CLUBS and ROCKHOUNDS!**

### 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 PM. (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, Tel: 706-401-3173. **All reported violations will be held in strict confidence.**

**Directions:** (1) From Washington, Georgia: Drive east 11 miles on SR-378 and look for mine entrance on right. (2) From the Hardee's in Lincolnton, Georgia, drive approximately 5-1/2 miles west on SR-378, and 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



- Our club president, Vinton Feanny, opened the meeting and invited our new members to introduce themselves.
- Treasurers Report – Gary Bergtholdt presented a positive report.
- Gary announced the upcoming TOTE, March 8-10, in the Virginia Beach Convention Center. Volunteers are to meet at the Sandy Bottom Nature Park' GMSVP storage shed at noon on Thursday, March 7th, to load the truck and then to set up at the Virginia Beach Convention Center between 1 and 1:30 PM. The TOTE show will be Friday Noon – 6 PM, Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, and Sunday 10 AM – 5 PM. Booth and saws tear down and return to storage building will start shortly before the show ends. Gary said that volunteers are needed and appreciated.
- Membership – 105 members.
- Newsletter – Dan Fontaine thanked members for their contributions to the newsletter. He specifically mentioned John Fulmer's article on the fossil shark's teeth from Florida.
- Field Trip Coordinator – Bo Mulcahy discussed a variety of locations for potential field trips, i.e., Hiddenite (NC) mine, Fairy Stone Mine (Culpepper), and the Lucky Stone Quarry's Dinosaur Tracks.
- The next meeting is on Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup>.
- The business meeting concluded at 7:35 PM.
- Mike Griffith presented a video on the Crystal Cave near Naica, Mexico.

Minutes prepared by David Scharff

March 11, 2019

/ original signed /

## Visit a Show

Source: EFMLS News Volume 66, Number 5, March 2019 & SFMS Lodestar February 2019

April 27-28: Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry Show sponsored by the Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society. Agricenter, 7777 Walnut Grove Rd Memphis, TN. Website: [www.theearthwideopen.com](http://www.theearthwideopen.com), E-mail: [info@theearthwideopen.com](mailto:info@theearthwideopen.com). Contact: WC McDaniel 901-490-3575

May 11: 30th Annual Chesapeake Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show hosted by the Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Society. Ruhl Armory, 1035 York Rd; Towson, MD. 21204. 10:00 am – 4 pm. INFO: <http://www.chesapeakegemandmineral.org/>

May 18-19: Harrison County Gem and Mineral Show sponsored by the Harrison County Gem and Mineral Society. 13280 Shriners Blvd, Biloxi, MS. Contact info: [www.gulfportgems.org](http://www.gulfportgems.org)

July 27-28: 40th Annual Champlain Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Burlington Gem & Mineral Club. Champlain Valley Exposition, Essex Junction, Vermont. Handicapped accessible. Info: Christine Smart at [csmart813@gmail.com](mailto:csmart813@gmail.com) or <http://www.burlingtongemandmineralclub.org/show.html>

October 28-29: 55th Annual Atlantic Coast Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show hosted by the Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore. Howard County Fairgrounds, West Friendship, MD. Info: [www.gemcuttersguild.com](http://www.gemcuttersguild.com)

November 9-10: 46th Annual Parade of Gems sponsored by the Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society. Melbourne Auditorium 625 East Hibiscus Blvd. Melbourne, FL 32901 More info: [www.canaveral-mgs.com](http://www.canaveral-mgs.com); Show Chairman, Don McLamb 570 Seabreeze Drive Indialantic, FL 32903 321-723-2592, [fdjmc@aol.com](mailto:fdjmc@aol.com)



# 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.