



# THE VIRGINIA PEN

GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY OF THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA



May 2019

## President's Corner

Vinton Feanny

### Special Points of Interest:

- Aurora Fossil Festival, May 24-25
- GMSVP Meeting, Jun 6
- SFMS William Holland Lapidary Workshop, Jun 9-14
- MAGMA Western North Carolina Rockhound Roundup on July 21st - 28th

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What a wonderful, energetic auction that we had on May 2nd. Many bidders tried their best to outbid the other. We even had two brothers bidding against each other! It was certainly a rollicking time for all, with many, many laughs.

About 20 club members attended the GMSVP Spring Picnic on Saturday, May 11th. The big rock saw, the smaller rock saw, two Genies, and the trim saw were all available. Members kept the saws busy, and two of the Genies were occupied throughout the day. Michael brought a bucket of gravel from Aurora, NC; a sifting pan; and a tub for water for us to find shark's teeth and the like. It was a tremendous hit with the children and adults alike. The food was delicious! From my observation, everyone had a very good time. Sorry, if you missed it!

Your Board and Committee Chairs strive to enliven the club with activities of interest to our members. So far, we have not been successful in bringing out more members to our meetings and events. We would like your suggestions. Please communicate directly with me at the meetings or e-mail me with your suggestions at: [feannyvin@gmail.com](mailto:feannyvin@gmail.com). We would appreciate and like to work with your ideas for making our meetings and activities more enjoyable and educational.

In our newsletter, we have listed several upcoming trips and events and would encourage each member to take part in these events. Keeping immersed in activities related to fossils, gems and minerals helps keep us focused on all that can be accomplished with this hobby. It keeps us engaged and mentally (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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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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**Treasurer:** Gary Bergtholdt,  
gbergtholdt@gmail.com

### Committee Chairs

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gmsvp.web@gmail.com

## President's Corner (Cont'd)

Vinton Feanny

(Cont'd from prior page) active because of the hundreds of possibilities that this hobby brings.

Our next meeting is on June 6th. As usual, the club will provide the main dish with members bringing their offerings of side dishes and desserts/snacks.

On July 19th through 21st, GMSVP will once again have a booth at the Treasures of the Earth Show (TOTE) at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. We will need volunteers at the Hampton Sandy Bottom Nature Part shed at Noon on Thursday, July 18th, to load the truck and then to unload the truck and set up our booth and rock saws at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. Selling and cutting geodes at these shows is our main fundraiser. These shows also provide a great way to tell the community about our club and attract new members.

All members....please volunteer. Thanks to those members, who have been volunteering. Please remember that, in addition to the Thursday setup, we need members on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday at the show to sell and cut geodes, sell raffle tickets, demonstrate their lapidary skills, answer questions from curious folks about our club, and breakdown the booth and return the equipment to the shed. All volunteers should contact Gary Bergtholdt at: [gbergtholdt@gmail.com](mailto:gbergtholdt@gmail.com) to sign up.

Looking forward to seeing fellow rockhounds at the June meeting.

## GMSVP 2019 Calendar (Subject to Change)

Gary Bergtholdt

- 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

## June Meeting Program

Michael Griffith



The program for the June 6th meeting has not yet been locked down. Dan Fontaine will send out an e-mail on the program, once confirmed.

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## IN MEMORY OF

Lenore Most, a member of GMSVP, died at her home in Potomac, Maryland, on April 18th. Lenore obtained her Art degree from Cooper Union and was a prolific painter. She died at the age of 90. Lenore Most was the mother of our club member, Barbara Sawyer.

## Annual Auction

Gary Bergtholdt

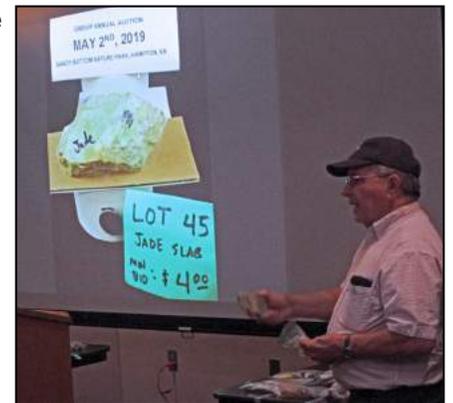
The annual GMSVP auction was held at our May 2nd meeting. It was one of the best auctions that we've had recently.

In addition to the items up for auction, we had a table in the back of the room with items donated to the club for sale.

As in past, we had over a hundred specimens and pieces of lapidary equipment for members to choose from and place on the auction tables for bidding. There were even special items only for our younger bidders. There was some very spirited bidding and the club sold about 50 items. Many members went home with treasures that they brought to the picnic to work with on the saws and polishing machines.

The club provided pizza as our main dish and members brought sides, drinks, and sweets.

Thanks to all the members who helped with preparing the specimens, setup, auctioning, recording, and cleanup. Couldn't do it without your participation.



Hunter Thurmond has volunteered to be our club's editor starting next year. Hunter has some experience as an editor and will be monitoring my efforts on the newsletters for the rest of this year. I will also be available to help mentor Hunter, as he takes over as our club's editor next year. He understands the importance of the newsletter being the primary communication between club officers and committee chairs and our members and for upcoming field trips and lapidary training. Thanks for volunteering, Hunter! Dan Fontaine, GMSVP Editor

## Remaining 2019 TOTE Show Dates

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



## Spring Fossil Collecting at Pipsico (April 13th)

Holly Worsham



Paul and I decided to go to the Pipsico field trip even though the weather did not look too promising for the day. We got our rain gear and some buckets for collecting and headed out. It was raining when we arrived, but eventually the rain stopped for a while for us to enjoy some collecting.

This was our third trip to Pipsico to collect fossils and each time we go there is always something different. For instance with this trip, I think I saw more driftwood come out than fossils. Paul and I found several small pieces and one large piece of driftwood.



We were able to find a few different fossils that we hadn't seen on previous trips. I am partial to barnacles, I don't know the fossil term for them, (maybe a Balanus) but I like to use them to display rocks on, particularly crystal points. We were very fortunate to find whole fossils this time as well, which is something we hadn't found yet. What I mean by whole, is both halves of a Chesapeecten shell.

We had packed a lunch, so we took a break and went up the hill to the picnic tables and relaxed for a bit. Then we headed out one more time. After about a half hour, the rain came back so we decided to call it a day.

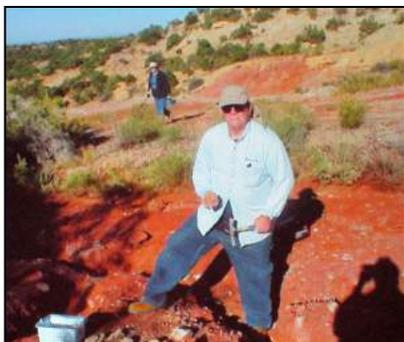
Our total haul was 6 pieces of driftwood and two buckets of fossils.



## GMSVP April Program

Michael Griffith

Our April meeting featured Richard Hull, who led an interesting discussion on: "Uranium for the Mineral Collector" Here's a few photos from the meeting.





Volunteers can sign up by contacting Gary Bergtholdt at: [gbergtholdt@gmail.com](mailto:gbergtholdt@gmail.com).



GMSVP once again will have a booth at the TOTE Show being held at the Virginia Beach Convention Center on July 19-21. 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. We encourage our volunteers to also see the show vendor booths.

**HELP NEEDED:**

**Please volunteer to help!**

**Thursday, July 18th:**

- ◇ **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, July 19th to Sunday, July 21st:** During the show, GMSVP booth/equipment will have four areas that need manning: demonstrations, education/youth programs, geode sales, and geode/slab cutting.

**Sunday, July 21st:**

- ◇ 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 in Hampton.



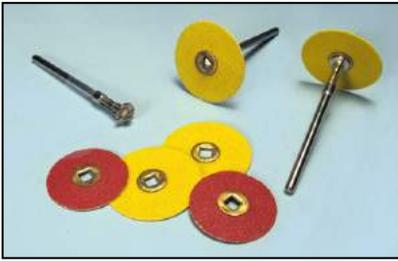
NOTES: Members are reminded that: (1) we get free access to the show (bring your GMSVP membership card); (2) we are not competing with the other vendors or clubs, and (3) *if a club member volunteers 4 hour of their time during the weekend at the booth and either helps with equipment loading and booth 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 **Gary Bergtholdt at: [gbergtholdt@gmail.com](mailto:gbergtholdt@gmail.com)**.

**Next Treasures of the Earth Show: VA Beach Convention Center on July 19 - 21**

## SANDING DISKS



One of my favorite flexshaft tools that saves a lot of time is the snap-on sanding disk. I mainly use the medium and fine grits but sometimes I like the very fine ones sold for working with platinum.

Ordinarily, you'd think of placing the disk on the mandrel with the grit side facing away from your hand, but notice that you end up with your elbow up in the air. Instead, try flipping the disk so that the grit side is towards your hand. It's a much more comfortable position because the elbow is down near your side, and it lets me hold the work up close where I have a better view of what I'm sanding.

I use these snap-on disks so frequently that I keep multiple mandrels with different grits already mounted in the bur stand. Some mandrels have the grit facing out and some facing in.



## EASIER PRONG SETTING

When setting stones in a prong mount, the tool is less likely to slip off the prong if you grind a groove into its face or rough up the face a bit with sandpaper. Some folks prefer a prong pusher for doing this, and others like a set of pliers.

The easiest way to create a slot on the pusher is with a file, and the easiest way to create a slot on one jaw of your pliers is with a cutoff wheel. Then do a rough polish on the slot with a medium grit, knife-edge silicone wheel.

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



Our annual auction was held in place of the regular May meeting. Because there were no business meeting, no minutes were prepared.

**New GMSVP Member—Welcome New Rockhounds! 119 Members!!!**



**Daniel Johnson**



**GMSVP June Meeting**

**Date: June 6th, 7 PM**

**Program: TBD**

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



Over the past few years I've written a lot of safety articles, many of which were inspired by fellow rock hounds while out on hunting trips (kind of like those songs from Taylor Swift - don't date her!). Last week I managed to inspire another one of my own. The trip I was on resulted in a great find - a big ammonite that weighed in excess of 70 pounds. Seeing as I had hernia surgery earlier this year this posed a problem. Luckily with proper lifting techniques I managed to slowly haul the big ammo out of the water and up to my cart without injuring myself! The effort did however inspire this note.

In my particular case I really pushed the limit of how much I could safely lift without injuring or reinjuring myself. The potential was there to aggravate my hernia scar or even hurt my back.

Understanding your limits with respect to managing how much you can carry is very important. The very first article I wrote as the Safety Chairman for the SCFMS was inspired by an incident where a lady passed out from heat exhaustion while trying to carry too much weight up a hill to our cars. Ultimately she was OK, but we left most of her finds at the outcrop. If she had considered her physical condition, the heat and the terrain, then she would have been much more selective with what she had tried to haul out.

Along those lines I would encourage you to take into account what you might find while on a field trip and give careful consideration to how much you can physically carry from the outcrop to your vehicle. Personally I use a variety of buckets and ropes to do a lot of my rock hauling, and much to the amusement of many of my friends, I haul a lot of rocks in a double-wide jogging stroller (3-wheeler) that I bought at Goodwill a couple of years ago. It works great - thus my "limit" is about two hundred pounds of rocks! I have other field trip buddies who use wagons, carts, sleds, canoes, rafts, etc., to help them haul out their finds.

My hunting in Texas also adds the summer heat to the mix. It was so hot this past summer that I know very few people who actually made many hunts over the past several months. Hunting in this heat required additional consideration for what could be hauled out from an outcrop. Distance, time, heat, and how much liquid you could carry out with you were added to the equation with weight. Staying hydrated was essential. Two bottles of water in a backpack were NOT adequate!

One thing I really enjoy is the opportunity to take my kids hunting with me. My eldest daughter has type 1 diabetes and managing her insulin and food intake can become much more complicated while on extended hunts. Many of us really ratchet up our rockhounding after retirement, but likewise have a lot more medical considerations associated with age. Please keep that in mind if you are going into the field, so that you can make sure that your medication and food situation is properly accounted for.

In a nutshell keep in mind what limitations you have, both physical and physiological. Considerations include rock weight, distance travelled, vertical ascents/descents, stamina, water/food/medicine requirements, and those of who you will be hunting with.

Proper planning will help keep you safe and knowing your limitations will help you to not overdo it.

BE SAFE!!!

## 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 GMSVP Website won 1st Place in both the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies (SFMS) and the national American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) 2019 Website Contests.

This is quite an honor for our club and our outstanding webmaster, Holly Worsham.

The AFMS website contest entries were the Best of the Best among the seven Regional Federations. Only the top two winning websites from each Regional Federation contest were entered into the AFMS contest round. Our GMSVP website won 1st place among all the 15 top regional federation websites!

If you have not already visited our club's website ([www.gmsvp.org](http://www.gmsvp.org)), you are missing a true gem.

## 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



**26th Annual**  
**FOSSIL FESTIVAL**  
**May 24-25, 2019**  
**Aurora, NC**

**FRIDAY**  
 6:00 pm - Opening Ceremony followed by Live Music

**SATURDAY ACTIVITIES**  
 5K Fossil Run, Veterans Breakfast, Fossil Talks, Parade, Live Music, Aurora Fossil Museum Birthday Celebration, Fossil Auction, Games, Fossil/Mineral/Educational Displays, Local Nonprofit Fare, Rides, Craft/Food/Fossil Vendors, Fossil Hunting, and much, much more!!

**Sunday**  
 11 am: Local Community Church Service: Main Festival Field  
 Sponsored by the Aurora-Richland Township Chamber of Commerce

**AURORA FOSSIL MUSEUM**

252-322-4405 [www.aurorafossilfestival.net](http://www.aurorafossilfestival.net)  
 Like us on Facebook @Auroraff

**FOSSIL FESTIVAL AURORA, N.C.**

C. Crane, 2019

# 16th Annual Western North Carolina Rockhound Roundup on July 21st - 28th

## The largest annual Rockhound gathering in the state!

Hosted by: M.A.G.M.A., the Mountain Area Gem and Mineral Association

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

This event will be based at Camp Stephens. This property is located just outside the city of Asheville off of Interstate 26. The camp is just 3.5 miles from the Interstate but located in a secluded wooded area on the French Broad River. There is room for many RV's and tent campers. There is a large indoor pavilion with two bathrooms, two showers (note that the showers and bathrooms have been renovated and are in excellent working condition now) a kitchen, electricity and water for the outside campers and inside the pavilion. There are large campfire pits for use by campers. I will also have two 'porta potties' on site for extra bathrooms. There will be a dumpster on site for all garbage (be sure to bag your garbage before putting it in the dumpster). Campers will be able to swim, fish, canoe, snorkel, etc. in the river. The camp area is completely wooded so there is plenty of shade. We will be allowed to use the numerous tables provided in the pavilion to set up and swap/sale our rocks and minerals. Three miles from the camp are numerous gas stations, a mall, restaurants, motels/hotels and more.

Campers can arrive anytime Sunday the 21st to set up camp and get ready for the week's events.

Agenda: We have coordinated this event to coincide with the numerous gem and mineral shows that are taking place in Franklin, North Carolina the same week. We will visit a variety of mines for collecting. There will be directions to the mines given to all attendees, campers, and participants, and they can visit any of the mines listed here, any day of the roundup as many times as they like. I will have release forms and take payment for some mines at the camp and will provide instructions as to where to pay for some mines.

Mines we will have full access to during the week of the roundup:

Crabtree Emerald Mine in Mitchell County, NC. Fee: \$15 for those camping at the roundup, \$20 for all others. Release forms and payment will be collected at the camp prior to the dig. Directions will be provided at camp.

Sinkhole Mine in Mitchell County, NC. No fee, directions will be provided at camp.

Little Pine Garnet Mine in Madison County, NC. Fee: \$25 per person. Forms and payment are handled at the office of the Sandy Bottom Trail Rides before proceeding to the mine. Directions will be provided at camp.

Sharpes Emerald Prospect in Hiddenite, NC. Fee \$20 for those camping at the roundup, \$25 for all others. Release forms and payment will be collected at the camp prior to the dig. Directions will be provided at camp.

We will be visiting the numerous gem and mineral shows in Franklin, NC daily.

There will be demonstrations on wire wrap, flint knapping, cabochon making, etc. Display tables will be available to show off your favorite specimens. The members have a cookout in the evening and a big campfire. There will be tables setup throughout the week for people to sell and trade their rocks and minerals, gems and jewelry.

Saturday the 27th; THE FEAST! Everyone should bring a dish or desert and something to drink. If you need to cook something for the meal, you should start cooking around 1 PM to be ready to eat around 3 PM.

Fee for Roundup: \$40 per person. Vendors, \$60. This covers all 7 days of the Roundup.

Kids 12 and under are free.

If you plan to only attend a few of the days, the cost will be \$10 per day.

Accommodations: Camping on the Camp Stephens property is included in the above cost. (Cont'd on next page.)

## 16th Annual Western North Carolina Rockhound Roundup on July 21st - 28th

(Cont'd from prior page)

Directions: Take exit 33 off of Interstate 26 just outside of Asheville NC. Go west on Brevard Road/Hwy. 191. Drive 3.5 miles to Clayton Road on the left, turn left and drive 2/10ths of a mile to the entrance to Camp Stephens on the left. You will see a large MAGMA sign at the entrance. If coming from Exit 37 off I-26, turn right onto Clayton Road, the event will be on the right. Address: 263 Clayton Road, Arden, NC.

There are two KOA campgrounds in the area:

- East Asheville KOA: reservations: 1-800-562-5907, information: 828-686-3121
- West Asheville KOA: reservations: 1-800-562-9015, information: 828-665-7015

For those who would rather stay in a hotel in the area, there are several hotel/motels 3.5 miles from the camp at the I-26 exit. For more info on these motels:

- Country Inn and Suites: 845 BREVARD RD, Asheville, NC 28806 (828) 670-9000
- Rodeway Inn and Suites: 9 Wedgefield Drive, Asheville, NC 28806 (828) 670-8800
- Fairfield Inn and Suites: 11 Rocky Ridge Road, Asheville, NC 28806 (828) 665-4242
- Hampton Inn: One Rocky Ridge Road, Asheville, NC 28806 (828) 667-2022
- Comfort Suites: 890 Brevard Road, Asheville, NC 28806 (828) 665-4000

This roundup is open to all clubs and anyone visiting the area from out of town who would like to attend. Remember to bring plenty of rocks and minerals to trade, sell, and show.

For more information, contact Rick Jacquot at: 828-779-4501 or email: [rick@wncrocks.com](mailto:rick@wncrocks.com)

## Visit a Show

Source: EFMLS News Volume 66, Number 6, April 2019 & SFMS Lodestar May 2019

May 18-19: Suffolk Gem and Mineral Club; Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Auditorium, 495 N Ocean Ave., Patchogue, NY: Info: Elaine Casani, 631 567-3342, [lavenderlady@optonline.net](mailto:lavenderlady@optonline.net). [www.SuffolkGem.com](http://www.SuffolkGem.com)

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)

June 1: PA Earth Science Assoc.; Memorial Park, 70 Poplar St., Macungie, PA. Info: MineralFest.com/vendors.html

June 1-2: Wayne Co Gem & Min Club; Greater Can. Civic Center, 250 N Bloomfield Rd., Canandaigua, NY. Info: Fred Haynes, [fredmhaynes55@gmail.com](mailto:fredmhaynes55@gmail.com). [www.wcgmcc.org](http://www.wcgmcc.org)

July 6-7: Gem City Rock & Mineral Society; McDowell Intermed. HS, 3320 Caughey Rd., Erie, PA. Info: James Trimble, 814-460-9299, [jtrimble57@gmail.com](mailto:jtrimble57@gmail.com). [www.GemCityRockClub.org](http://www.GemCityRockClub.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>

June 21-23: Gastonia, NC Gem and Mineral Show. Gaston VFW Absher-Flowers Post 9337, 3250 W Franklin Blvd, Gastonia, NC 28052. Minerals and Fossils from around the world. A real working sluice. Info: Bob Winstanley: Phone 704-577-3391, e-mail: [machine66man@gmail.com](mailto:machine66man@gmail.com)

November 9-10: 46th Annual Parade of Gems sponsored by Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society. Melbourne Auditorium, 625 East Hibiscus Blvd. Melbourne, FL 32901. Info: [www.canaveral-mgs.com](http://www.canaveral-mgs.com) or Don McLamb, 321-723-2592 or [fdjmc@aol.com](mailto:fdjmc@aol.com)

November 23-24: 53rd Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Bead and Fossil Show sponsored by Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches. South Florida Fairgrounds Expo Center East, 9067 Southern Blvd., West Palm Beach Florida 33411. Info: Walter Triche, 561-585-2080, e-mail: [wtriche@gmail.com](mailto:wtriche@gmail.com).



# 11th Bi-Annual

*Asheville, North Carolina*

## Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show!

September 13th - 15th, 2019

Rocks, Gems, Crystals, Minerals, Fossils,  
Artifacts, Meteorites and More!



Hours: 9am – 6pm Friday and Saturday  
9am – 4pm Sunday

Free Admission  
Rain or Shine

Food and Drinks  
Available Daily

For more information,  
contact Rick at:  
828-779-4501 or email  
rick@wncrocks.com

Directions: Take Exit 33 off of Interstate 26 East. Turn left (West) on Brevard Road/Hwy. 191. Drive 3.5 miles to Clayton Road on the left, turn left and drive 2/10ths of a mile to the entrance to Camp Stephens on the left. If coming West on I-26, take Exit 37, go left under interstate, turn right onto Clayton Road, the camp will be on the right. Look for 'GEM SHOW' signs. Address: 263 Clayton Road, Arden, North Carolina.



# 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.