



THE VIRGINIA PEN

GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY OF THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA



June 2019

President's Corner

Vinton Feanny

Special Points of Interest:

- **NO GMSVP JULY MEETING**
- Belgrade Quarry, July 12
- Onslow Quarry, July 26
- TOTE Show, VA Beach Convention Center, July 19-21
- MAGMA Western North Carolina Rockhound Roundup on July 21-28
- SFMS Wildacres Workshops: [August 19-25](#) & [September 16-22](#)
- EFMLS Wildacres Fall Workshop [September 2-9](#)

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Welcome to all our new members! Our club membership is going strong, with our new members showing a desire to be part of the club. Our new Hospitality Host is Joyce and Bob Kennedy. Tim Savage has agreed to be our club's Silversmith. Celeste Small has agreed to assist (for now) Gary with the TOTE shows. Thanks to all of you for volunteering and helping to make our club great.

Please remember that there will not be a club meeting in July. Instead, we will be participating in the TOTE show being held July 19th - 21st at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. As usual, we will need volunteers to load up the truck on Thursday, July 18th at Noon at our Sandy Bottom Nature Park shed. Volunteers are needed to offload the truck at the Convention Center and set up our booth. Volunteers are needed throughout the weekend and with loading up the truck on Sunday for the return trip to our shed at Sandy Bottom Nature Park. We had a great amount of volunteers for the last show, and it took us half the usual time to load, set up the saws and booth, and breakdown and return the booth and equipment items to the shed. Please consider volunteering this time also. Please communicate with Gary at gbergtholdt@gmail.com to let him know that you will be volunteering. Thanks.

For our August 1st club meeting, we are asking members to bring in items made at either Wildacres or William Holland over the past several years for a show and tell. If doing a presentation, any slides or pictures should be forwarded to Michael Griffith at mgriff8645@aol.com ahead of time so that we may present them at the meeting. Anyone who wishes to demonstrate a particular technique, (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

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

Officers

President: Vinton Feanny,
FeannyVin@gmail.com
1st VP Membership: Walter Priest,
wetlanddesign@gmail.com
2nd VP Programs: Michael Griffith,
MGriff8645@aol.com
Secretary: Dave Scharff,
chap_dad@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Gary Bergtholdt,
gbergtholdt@gmail.com

Committee Chairs

Field Trips: Bo Mulcahy,
bomulcahy@gmail.com.
Hospitality: Joyce and Bob Kennedy,
joycekennedy63@yahoo.com
Pebble Pups: Co-Chairs:
Christine Hempley,
offalstuff@gmail.com
Shows: **Vacant**
Newsletter: Dan Fontaine,
gmsvp.editor@gmail.com
Property: **Vacant**
Librarian/Historian: **Vacant**
Faceting: Chuck Rogers,
car3rd@verizon.net
Silversmithing: Tim Savage,
savagegems@yahoo.com
Publicity: Michael Griffith,
mgriff8645@aol.com
Mineralogy: Walter Priest,
wetlanddesign@gmail.com
Webmaster: Holly Worsham,
gmsvp.web@gmail.com

President's Corner (Cont'd)

Vinton Feanny

(Cont'd from prior page) please contact me so that we can work out a sequence for the presentation. We are asking that all presentations be less than 10 minutes.

At our September 14th meeting (GMSVP Fall PICNIC), we will have a trunk sale/ swap meet among our members. You may bring any lapidary related item for sale or trade. The club will also be putting out rocks, slabs and specimens for sale at very reasonable prices. We will need a headcount for this picnic, so we can prepare accordingly. Please contact me at feannyvin@gmail.com and let me know if you will be attending.

We are having an exciting 2019!

GMSVP 2019 Meeting Calendar

Gary Bergtholdt

- **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

GMSVP 2019 Pebble Pups Calendar

Christine Hempley

- **July: No Club Meeting**
- August 1: Lifeforms
- September 14: Picnic/Cab Practice
- October 3: State Fossil
- November: Lapidary Art
- December 5: Awards



There is no GMSVP club meeting in July. Enjoy your summer vacations!
Please help with the Treasures of the Earth Show GMSVP Booth (July 18 thru 21). See page 3 for information.

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Volunteers can sign up by contacting Gary Bergtholdt at: 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.



Hello, everyone. I recently returned from my first visit to Wildacres and thought some of you might be interested in hearing about my experience. The short answer is: it was amazing! The setting was serene and beautiful. There was plenty of tasty food. My class was wonderful, and I learned a lot more than I expected, both in and out of the classroom. What really set Wildacres apart and made it magic, though, were the people. I have never experienced so many people as welcoming, genuinely interested in others, and unflinchingly accepting of individual idiosyncrasies and limitations as those I found at Wildacres.



For those of you who are unfamiliar with it, Wildacres is a mountain-top retreat that our club has access to a few times a year for a week of lapidary-related education and community. The retreat is nestled on top of a mountain next to the Blue Ridge Parkway about six and a half hours from here, just north-east of Asheville, N.C. The campus is surrounded by lush greenery, with flagstone pavers, wood-clad buildings, plenty of windows, scenic balconies well-stocked with rocking chairs, and a wonderfully complete lack of televisions. There is internet in the lobby, though, and most people were able to find a cell phone signal. The week I attended was the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (EFMLS) Spring Session. EFMLS will have another session in September, and the Southeastern Federation (SFMS) will have sessions in August and September.

The week began with check-in Monday afternoon, followed by an orientation and welcome gathering after which we got to meet our instructors, see the classrooms, and get any initial handouts related to our classes. Dinner the first night was a little intimidating for me; I was still too anxious and shy to be comfortable with the “family style” dining. “Family style” means that lunch and dinner were presented in serving dishes meant to be passed around the table; breakfast was self-serve, cafeteria style. It didn’t take me long to get comfortable with the dining arrangement though; everyone was so welcoming and helpful that I quickly got over my anxiety.

The first couple of days were a whirlwind of waking up, eating, diving into class, nearly missing lunch because I was so engrossed, diving back into to class, eating dinner, and dropping into bed exhausted and happy so I could do it again the next day. I was very thankful that there was a golf cart available for helping people with mobility issues like me get up and down the hill to the dining hall.

Day three was the field trip day, but I was pretty sure my body couldn’t handle the physical effort required to go specimen hunting, so I stayed “on the mountain” and rested. The day ended with the tailgate, where everything from giant blocks of rough to finished pieces of fine jewelry was for sale. The last two days were a slightly less intense whirlwind of activity since I had gotten used to the pace and had a better idea of what to expect each day.

The “Good Stuff” auction happened after dinner one night and was a real treat, not only were there many interesting items on the table but the auction doubled as a stand-up comedy show thanks to the antics of the auctioneers. On the final evening, we had a show-and-tell where we got to share our work with everyone else and see what they had been working on as well. Afterward, everyone gathered in the canteen and on the porch to share snacks and stories and socialize one last time before we all went our separate ways in the morning. (Cont’d on next page)



These are the pieces that I made in the cabachon class

(Cont'd from prior page) Each evening, and after breakfast most days, we attended informal lectures by the speaker-in-residence for the week, Renee Newman. She discussed the intricacies of why jade and diamonds are valued the way they are and how to identify the various qualities and types of both materials. I wasn't sure I'd get much out of these talks since I'm not going to be in the market for high-quality jade or diamonds anytime soon, but I found that after learning about how they are valued and sold, I feel much more comfortable with the idea of trying to work with these materials in the future. Renee also discussed the various gems native to the United States and where they can be found, which I found really interesting. Many of the other Wildacres attendees shared personal experiences hunting for and working with these native gems, which really brought the subject alive for me.



Wildacres was an intensely immersive experience, and one I intend to revisit soon. It is so much more than just a week of classes, though those are worth the trip themselves. It was waking up early to have coffee and listen to tales of rockhounding from years past; sitting down to lunch to hear how all the different class projects were coming along; having dinner with someone who's been organizing gem shows for decades and is happy to share their experience; relaxing in the evenings with a retired geologist who is happy to tell stories about their work. It was four days of solid, in-depth, instruction and application that resulted in beautiful, well-crafted items that also serve as reminders of what is needed to create quality pieces and how to handle different issues as they come up. If you haven't been yet, I highly recommend making the trip. Check out the websites at efmls-wildacres.org or sfmsworkshops.com and see if there are any upcoming classes that look interesting. If you have been, I hope my recounting reminds you of your time "on the mountain." My time at Wildacres is something I won't soon forget, and I hope to get to share the experience with some of you in the future.



Minutes for the GMSVP General Meeting of June 6, 2019

David Scharff

- Our club president, Vinton Feanny, opened the meeting and welcomed our guests and new members.
- Vinton said that tonight the business meeting will focus on the club volunteer positions that need filling.
 - She began by introducing the Pebble Pup leader, Christine Hempley. Christine requested another adult to help conduct and lead the Pebble Pup programs.
 - The Joyce and Bob Kennedy family volunteered for our Hospitality position.
 - Tim Savage volunteered to be the Instructor for our Silver Smith position.
 - We still need volunteers for Shows and Property Manager.
- We will not have a monthly meeting in July, because we have a TOTE show July 19 th – 21st.
- The next monthly meeting is on Thursday, August 1st.
- Bubba Ward gave a presentation on "Opals."

Minutes prepared by David Scharff

June 13, 2019

/ original signed /

While at the Kentucky Mountain Mushroom and Agate Festival, I met a couple of Kentucky agate enthusiasts from Kentucky and got their business cards in hopes of trying my luck at hunting the elusive agate again. I learned that one of them owned 350 acres with access to a stream in Kentucky that had some agates. When I was planning my annual trip to Louisville, KY, I decided to call David Davis, the owner of the land we had hunted on before and asked him if he could fit me in for another hunt when I was in the neighborhood. He said, 'Sure!' and mentioned that they hunted for agates pretty regularly. I asked him if there was a charge for the hunt, since the hunt during the Festival was \$20 (or if the charge was more since it'd be just me...which has happened at other mines). He said he didn't charge for hunts on his land; so, we planned to meet at the local Hardee's early in the morning and head out.

I met David Davis (the land owner), Roland McIntosh (co-author of the Kentucky Agate book), and a young man (whose name escapes me), and we, having already started out on the edge of Nowhere, drove about 29 minutes further into definite Nowhereland, to drop our cars off next to the creek where we would be hunting and then took the 4X4 about five miles further into Nowhere. Passing a recent landslide and driving over a hole that they haven't found the bottom of, they dropped me off by the stream in the middle of nowhere with a promise that they would pick me up at a certain time.

Unfortunately, I had left my phone in the car, which is how I typically check the time. Fortunately, I had a time stamp on my camera that I could monitor. (Which I later discovered was...wrong.) I spent about 5 hours walking the stream, which was tricky in places. And it's a good thing that I was wearing my chest waders as most of the ground cover greenery was poison ivy.

When I was there the previous month, I signed up for an agate hunt, but didn't know what exactly I was looking for until afterwards when I went to the Agate and Rock show in town. This time, I picked up about 100 pounds of agate-y looking rocks but I suspect that 95% of them will just be Kentucky geodes (though some are interesting looking such as the bright red ones I found.)

Even though, I was getting nervous thinking that the time for pickup had already passed, it was nice in the woods. It was unseasonably cool and threatened rain, but that didn't happen. And it's a good thing I decided to liberally spray myself with OFF bug spray as many flying critters seemed to regard me as a tasty snack but ultimately flew away.

Roland eventually came by to pick me up (right on time, I would later discover), and we chatted about various waders and how they seem to last about 2-3 years before springing a leak no matter how much you pay for them. (Cont'd on next page)



(Cont'd from prior page) Mine leaked and there's nothing like walking around with a boot full of water for several hours. I was also concerned about all the poison ivy I'd been walking through and was certain that I had transferred the poison ivy oil to my face by wiping my head. At first chance, I took a hot, soapy bath...I seemed to have dodged that bullet as I didn't contract any poison ivy rash.

So, as we were chatting on the way back to the car, we passed over a wash where there were many rocks around the stream and I spotted a little bit of the 'Marlboro Red' that's so popular with the agate collectors there. It took a second to register, but I yelled out 'STOP!' and Roland was able to, quite quickly, to the point that I was almost thrown out of the 4X4! I ran back to where I saw the red and plucked a nice sized agate out of the mud. Wiping some of the mud off, I showed it to Roland, who proclaimed it was a really nice piece! So, I didn't get skunked after all! I was very happy with the specimen!

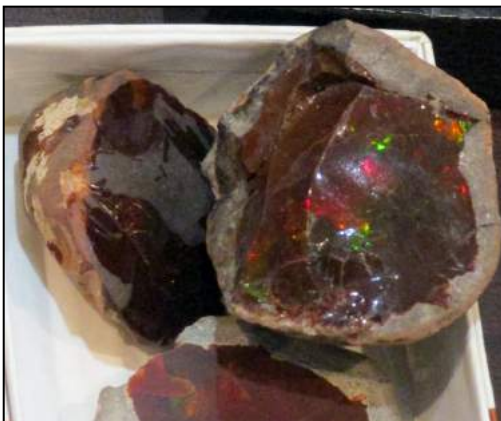
I found some interesting rocks that I hope are other agates, and I look forward to cutting them during the TOTE Show next month!



June Program

Dan Fontaine

Bubba Ward shared his knowledge on opal types, where to find them, and the proper approach to slice and polish the optimal cabochon. Here are a few pictures from the meeting.



EMERY BOARDS

The sanding boards for doing your nails are one of my favorite finishing tools. I use the ones with a thin foam core. They have enough resistance to sand just the high points off a flat surface and yet give a little when you're trying to smooth off a curved surface.

Plus they're inexpensive and come in a variety of grits. Some grits are so fine they give an almost finished surface. Pick up a few at a beauty supply company or at your local drug store.



DENTAL FLOSS

When testing the fit of a stone in the bezel, it's all too easy to get it stuck. If tapping the finding or opening up the bezel a bit with a knife blade doesn't dislodge it, you might have to drill a small hole in the bottom and push it out with a needle.

To avoid all this frustration, use the old dental floss trick. Lay a piece of over the top of the bezel before you seat the stone. Then just pull on the string to remove the stone.

Discover New Jewelry Skills With Brad's "How To Do It" Books at:

www.Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith.

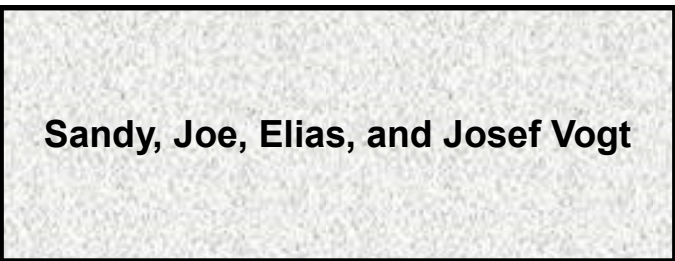


Remaining 2019 TOTE Show Dates

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



New GMSVP Member—Welcome New Rockhounds! 123 Members!!!



Sandy, Joe, Elias, and Josef Vogt



There is no GMSVP July Club Meeting

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

Perhaps you may have heard about the questions of vaccinations and having sufficient coverage to insure the safety of the “herd” effect. Being safe is sometimes a matter of numbers. What is the likelihood of a particular tree being struck by lightning? Or, the likelihood of a mailbox being taken out by a car careering out of control on slippery roads? Or, the likelihood of toast landing on the floor—butter side up? What are the odds? What are the numbers?

With much of the rockhound safety an important number is the number “one.” One person is usually the “one” working in the basement lapidary workshop. One person is usually the “one” working with the hazardous rock cleaning chemistries out in the garage. One person is sometimes the “one” going on the field trip to the new site.

How does the “one” protect him or herself? Well, have you ever heard of the instance where the person putting up upstairs has a sudden thought: “Hmmm, sure is quiet down in our basement shop. It sounds a little too quiet. I think I’ll wander down and see how things are going for her.” In this case the number is “two.” There is another person involved with the safety of the other. What if there wasn’t the other? Well, there is always reliance on being familiar with all workshop safety parameters, have a cell phone for emergency communications, have a med kit nearby, know a respect for one’s limits and abilities, and so on. Still, having the number “two” is a great backup.

With chemistries “one” can, with remarkable ease, encounter a situation of breathing too many fumes. One way to be safe would be to understand that pilots, surgeons, astronauts, and rockhounds use checklists. Why would a thoroughly trained professional use a checklist? Because they are a thoroughly trained professional. Please give serious consideration to having and using checklists when working around hazardous chemistry.

One person can be safer on a field trip, if “one” is prepared. But even with the best preparation, it is wise to have a number “two.” The number “two” in this case will be a person who has information about the “one” destination, route (especially when there are several ways to enter the collecting site), anticipated time of return, cell phone number, and any other information that might be useful in an emergency, such as meds.

A herd is not necessary in most rockhound activities, although, the “one” should make doubly sure to do everything possible to be safe. It is often not merely a matter of numbers to be safe. It’s a matter of guidelines, understanding, patience, practice, common sense, thoughtfulness, care, attention, and preparedness. Is that all? Well, almost. There is one more. There is also a need to respect your abilities and limits.

By all the numbers, your safety matters.

Estate Purchase

Dan Fontaine

Our club made an estate purchase of some very nice slabs/specimens and equipment, such as a large circular rock saw, flat lap, trim saw, and Pixie cabochon polisher. They will be included in our next auction. Although it was Father’s day, nine club members (Gary Bergtholdt, Bo Mulcahy and sons, Debbie Rice, Michael Griffith, Ellie and Ed Pitts, and Dan Fontaine) loaded and transported the purchased items to a storage location.



Gem Tree Workshop

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



SFMS LAPIDARY WORKSHOPS AT WILDACRES—CLASSES

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

Wildacres August 19-25, 2019

- [Beginning Casting](#)
- [Cabochons](#)
- [Chain Maille](#)
- [Cold Connections](#)
- [Layered Colored Pencil Jewelry on Metal](#)
- [Metalwork Special Projects](#)
- [Wire Wrapping](#)

Wildacres September 16-22, 2019

- [Advanced Casting](#)
- [Chain Maille](#)
- [Cold Connection](#)
- [Electro-Etching/Wood Inlay](#)
- [Introduction to Gem ID](#)
- [Metal Clay – Tangible Moments](#)
- [Silver I](#)
- [Stone Inlay](#)



EFMLS LAPIDARY WORKSHOP AT WILDACRES—CLASSES

<http://efmls-wildacres.org/>

Wildacres September 2-9, 2019

- Intarsia—John Milligan
- Viking Knit 1st semester—Valerie Johnson
- Wire Works 2nd semester—Valerie Tab Setting 1st semester—Linda Searcy
- Prong Setting 2nd semester—Londa Searcy
- Cold Connections/Etching Cold Connections/Etching Cold Connections/Etching Cold Connections/Etching 1st semester—Arlene Lazzaro
- Cold Connections II / Etching and setting stone
- Cold Connections II / Etching and setting stone
- Cold Connections II / Etching and setting stone 2nd

semester—Arlene Lazzaro

- Enamel Stone Pendant, Wire inlay Pendant and Earrings 1st semester—Samantha Lazzaro
- Crackle Enamel Pendant, Separation Enamel Pendant



Fantasia's Justice Kyanite Mine

Dan Fontaine

Earlier this month, Bo Mulcahy, our GMSVP Field Trip Coordinator, shared information with our club members about the only public dig (June 15th and 16th) at the Fantasia's Justice Kyanite Mine in Prospect, VA. Bo and her family and Steve Walton (maybe others?) went on the field trip.

Kyanite was readily visible with small specimens to pick up as well as larger rocks to chip.

Here's a couple of pictures of a larger piece that Bo was able to dislodge.



Coming up in a few weeks are public fossil hunting days at the Belgrade and Onslow Quarries of Martin Marietta in North Carolina. The Martin Marietta corporation has been very gracious in letting the public hunt for fossils at their quarries. These are great locations to find shark's teeth, fossil sand dollars and urchins, and the occasional nautiloid. They are both fossil marine environments and are very similar to the famous Aurora material (which is only about 45 minutes away) Megalodon teeth, as well as fossil mammal bones, have been found, but are rare.

The dig dates are always on a Friday, and it's roughly a four hour drive from the peninsula. You need to be at the location before 8 AM for the mandatory safety briefing, so you either need to be on the road by about 4 AM or start your journey the night before and get a place to stay. The safety briefing involves watching a film, getting briefed on the particular mine, regulations, and waiver signing. I shouldn't need to remind folks that it's been getting harder and harder to get into quarries these days and this is a fantastic opportunity, so be sure to LISTEN and OBEY all rules given at the safety briefing.

Required Safety gear is: Steel-toed or ANSI equivalent boots, long pants, safety glasses, hard hat, and a high visibility safety vest (preferably red/orange.)

Recommended gear: Sun screen(!), bug spray, WATER(!) as it's going to be VERY HOT, food, buckets. You might want to pack some rags and old towels as it can get quite muddy there (like the last two trips I went to).

Both Belgrade and Onslow consist of mostly transported overburden and loose sand and dirt. Surface looking is recommended and has been quite productive. Hammers and chisels might be needed, but unlikely. I've seen people dig and sift with some luck but that seems like too much work for me. You're free to try it, if you like.

The Belgrade quarry hasn't been hunted for about a year as it's been underwater since last year's hurricane.

Dates/Locations:

- Belgrade Quarry, Friday, July 12th
 - 5678 Highway 58 South, Maysville, North Carolina 28555
 - Tel: [\(910\) 743-6471](tel:9107436471)
- Onslow Quarry, Friday, July 26th
 - 131 Duffy Field Road, Richlands, North Carolina 28574
 - Tel: [\(910\) 324-7430](tel:9103247430)
 - (Note: This address on your GPS will take you to a wide part in the street...the office is about a half-mile down the road on the left.) I would recommend calling or texting Danny Humphrey (910-376-4001) about a day ahead of time as trips have been cancelled due to weather in the past.



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

Visit a Show

Source: EFMLS (<http://www.amfed.org/efmls/>) & SFMS (<http://www.amfed.org/sfms/>) Websites

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. 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 or <http://www.burlingtongemandmineralclub.org/show.html>

July 27-August 4th: 35th Grassy Creek Gem and Mineral Show. 136 Majestic View, Spruce Pine, NC 28777. Info: Donna Collis, 828-765-5519; collisdonna@yahoo.com. Website: <http://www.grassycreekgemshow.org>
Application is available on the website.

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 or Don McLamb, 321-723-2592 or 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.



Pailite Agate
Source: 2014 S.C.R.I.B.E. Clipart



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.