



THE VIRGINIA PEN

GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY OF THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA



September 2019

President's Corner

Vinton Feanny

Special Points of Interest:

- Kyanite Field Trip, Sep 28
- GMSVP Meeting, Oct 3
- Graves Mountain Dig, Oct 4-6
- TOTE Show, Oct 11-13
- RGMS Rock Swap: Nov 9
- Pipsico Fossil Hunt, Nov 23

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Summer is almost at an end! I trust that everyone has been enjoying the occasional wonderful weather and have had a safe and enjoyable summer.

Our semi-annual picnic was held on Saturday, September 14th. Although only about 20 members attended, it was a very pleasant event. A few members sold some items related to our craft. The big

saw and our Genies were fully occupied. Thanks to our grill masters for preparing excellent hamburgers, sausages, and hotdogs.

Our October meeting will be held on the first Thursday of the month – October 3rd. At that meeting we will accept nominations for replacing the existing Board. Please be aware that the majority of the existing Board members are willing to serve for 2020. Our club still has a need for committee members, especially a Property Manager to help maintain the equipment and an assistant for our Pebble Pubs coordinator. Please consider volunteering.

The webmaster position is vacant. I thought this information needed its own paragraph. The Club's website is one of the chief tools that brings in new members. The website, from what Holly mentioned, is mostly a cut and paste job. We use a web tool named Weebly, which I understand, is user friendly. Holly is available through telephone communications to assist anyone who is willing to take on this post. Please consider volunteering to cover this most important post of the Club.

(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

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President's Corner (Cont'd)

Vinton Feanny

(Cont'd from prior page) The last TOTE show of the year will be held October 11th to 13th at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. As usual, we will need volunteers to pack the truck at our shed located at Sandy Bottom on Thursday, October 10th. Packing of the truck will be a bit earlier than the usual time. Please be at the shed at 10 AM, so that we may avoid the heat of the day while doing this task. Please remember that volunteers also are needed to unpack the truck at the Convention Center and set up our booth that day. Sunday at approximately 4 PM, we begin breaking down our booth and packing the truck for the turn trip to Sandy Bottom park. As with all volunteers who help with the packing and spending at least 4 hours at the show, they will receive a 50% discount on any geode purchased. Thanks for volunteering.

The success of our Club depends on its members' participation in all aspects of the Club activities, including meetings. We welcome any suggestions on how to make our Club more vital, exciting, and informational. See you all at the October meeting.

!!!IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTION!!!

Always wear a mask, when grinding copper-related rocks on a Genie or similar machine. Also, copper-related rocks should not be ground when others are present. Some rocks containing copper include: Azurite (Hydrated Copper Carbonate), Chalcopyrite (Copper Iron Sulfide), Chrysocolla (Hydrated Copper phyllosilicate) Conicalcite (Hydrated Calcium Copper Arsenate), Copper (Cu), Cuprite (Copper Oxide), Malachite (Hydrated Copper Carbonate), Tetrahedrite (Copper Antimony Sulfide), and Turquoise (Hydrated Copper Aluminum Phosphate).

GMSVP 2019 Meeting Calendar

Gary Bergtholdt

- 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

- October 3: State Fossil
- November 7: Lapidary Art
- December 5: Awards

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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 October 11-13. 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, October 10th:**

- ◇ **10 AM:** 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"*) to load the truck and caravan over to the show site (or can meet us at the Virginia Beach Convention Center at 11:30 AM - Noon).
- ◇ **~Noon - 2 PM:** Truck unloading and GMSVP booth/equipment setup at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. Booth and equipment setup takes about 3 hours; more volunteers, less time.

- **Friday, October 11th to Sunday, October 13th:** During the show, GMSVP booth/equipment will have four areas that need manning: demonstrations, education/youth programs, geode sales, and geode/slab cutting.

- **Sunday, October 13th:**

- ◇ 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.

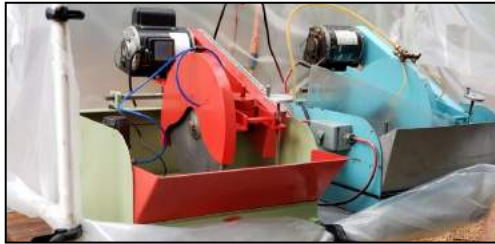


NOTES: Members are reminded that: (1) we get free access to the show (bring your GMSVP membership card); (2) we are not competing with the other vendors or clubs, and (3) *if a club member volunteers 4 hour of their time during the weekend at the booth and either helps with equipment loading and booth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



Sorry, we missed you at the picnic. Members brought side dishes, and the club provided drinks, hot dogs, and hamburgers that Michael Griffith cooked over a charcoal grill. There were several members who brought specimens, slabs, and jewelry to trade or sell to those attending. It was a good opportunity to socialize with other members.



Members were able to use the club's equipment to cut and polish stones. New members were able to get instruction on how to properly and safely use the equipment.



A big thank you to all who helped set up, operate the equipment, clean up, and return the materials to the shed, Hope to see you again at the May 2020 picnic.

Happy Homecoming!

Mike Mulcahy with the Virginia National Guard, just came home from a year-long deployment. He was greeted with lots of happy hugs!



Let Gary Bergtholdt know (gbergtholdt@gmail.com) know, if you can support the **GMSVP** booth at the **October TOTE Show**. Volunteers are needed for truck loading & unloading, booth setup & teardown, geode selling & cutting, and sharing a bit about our club with folks stopping by.

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

No new members during the past month.



Last 2019 TOTE Show Date

- October 11-13, VA Beach Convention Center

Next Treasures of the Earth Show: VA Beach Convention Center on October 10 - 13

Gem Tree Workshop

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



At the October 3rd meeting, Walter Priest and Gary Bergtholdt will provide a presentation and lead a discussion on the florescent properties of some minerals. They will have some specimens collected from New Jersey and some others they have used in their past classroom presentations.

Also, nominations for next year's GMSVP Board Members (President, Vice President - Programs, Vice President - Membership, Secretary, and Treasurer) will be held during the meeting. Please consider being a board member. It is a great opportunity for members to help our club!



Jewelry Bench Tips

Brad Smith, www.BradSmithJewelry.com

FOREDOM STAND

A quick and easy way to suspend a flex shaft over your jewelry bench is to use some steel pipe components from the hardware store. You can buy it today, attaches with a couple screws, and only costs about \$10

I use 1/2-inch galvanized pipe and fittings. To build a stand that attaches to the top of your bench, all you'll need is a flange and a thirty inch length of the pipe. If you prefer a stand that attaches to the side of your bench, you'll need a little longer pipe, three foot, a flange, and a 90 degree "street elle".



Finally, make a hook that goes into the top of the pipe to hang the motor from. You can use heavy coat hanger wire or 1/8 steel rod from the hardware store.

BROKEN DRILLS

Have you ever broken a drill bit off in a hole? Sometimes you can grab it with pliers, but other times the steel piece is below the surface in the hole. If this happens, a quick fix is to dissolve the steel in a solution of alum or fresh pickle. The solution will not affect your silver or gold piece.

Alum is typically available from a food store. It's used to preserve some foods. Use about a tablespoon per cup of warm water. Submerge your piece so that the partially drilled hole is facing up to let the bubbles float free and not block the hole.

Work Smarter & Be More Productive With Brad's "How To" Jewelry Books: www.Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith.



The big trek is complete, though our heads are still shifting gears.

Finished the house, got everything stuffed into a Penske, shoved the Harley on our trailer, and struck out across the country in a heat wave.

Drove over the Appalachians, crossed the big rivers Ohio, Missouri, Mississippi, then crossed the Great Plains in 106 degrees with a 'check engine' light on in my pickup. Pushed west and into its changes like views of snow capped Colorado Rockies to the south, high desert antelope country rimmed by Medicine Bow Mountains in Wyoming. Chugged over an 8,640' pass, across the Great Divide Basin through Utah's Wahsatch Range and past Great Salt Lake. Followed part of the Oregon Trail along the Snake River and through its irrigated farm lands through Idaho.

Stored our goods, turned in the Penske, reloaded our trailer in a bounce and dust worthy manner; visited family, gathered food, and drove up the scenic Payette River into the mountains -- firs, pines, whitewater, rafters. Finally bumped and twisted our way on dirt roads deep into the Rockies and off the grid.

At the cabin we got busy trying to unpack our stuff amidst 4 generations of older stuff. Ed has already drawn up plans for a garage, a deck, kitchen cabinets, and a pantry.

Now we're hauling out salvage and hauling in lumber, staying with my Mom when in town—cows, kids, corn, a Cowboy Church. And internet.

The truck is fixed (\$1.5K later) -- and we are giving thanks the high pressure oil pump did not give out in the middle of Kansas sun, or in the boonies. Though I would prefer the boonies -- we would have camped, eaten our food, found fresh water, been cooler and comfy for quite a while. Guess that's why I like the western mountains. (One of these days we'll sit down and just rest a while in them.)

Safety Matters – Is Safety Enough?

Ellery Borow, Safety Chair

Source: AFMS Newsletter, Volume 72, Number 6 – September 2019 (www.amfed.org)



A question, if I may: Do you think wearing eyeglasses is enough to protect your eyes? The answer is well, maybe, maybe not.

There is a discussion going around — does wearing seat belts while driving one's car make one feel safer or perhaps more confident about driving? And, if one is feeling safer, more confident, is it possible that with such feelings, one might drive faster or perhaps not as cautiously because of using the aforementioned seat belts? There is a discussion is safety circles as to whether or not the potential of additional risk-taking might mitigate a portion of the safety from use of the belts. Again, this is not a discussion as to whether or not to wear seat belts. Seat belts are well documented as to their benefits in saving lives and reducing injury in motor vehicle accidents. This is instead a discussion as to the idea that if, in addition to the belts, we should consider how we feel about relying on them to get one out of trouble if it should happen upon us. In other words, seat belts are not the whole answer, they are a complement to all of our good driving practices.

Oh, and of course, there are folks who will not change their driving habits one single iota while wearing their seat belts. They will remain as cautious and risk adverse as is their usual nature. They will, as usual, mind the speed limit, will drive just as carefully in the snow even though they have snow tires, and will be just as cautious in every respect.

(Cont'd on next page)

(Cont'd from prior page) Safety Glasses: So, where do safety glasses enter this discussion? When one is wearing their safety glasses, are one's hammering actions more dramatic on the chisel? Is one as careful as usual about other people in the area, while chisel chips are flying? Might one be as fussy about large flying shards while striking a rock directly with the hammer? Safety shoes: Might wearing safety shoes cause one to be less careful of their footing? One may still lose their footing even while wearing the best of boots. Gloves: Gloves should not be counted on to fully protect one's hand during a hammer's miss-strike. One's fingers may still suffer a hurtful pinch right through a heavy glove.

The take away is to remain mindful even though one is wearing or utilizing every item of safety gear available. Try not to let using safety gear override good safety practices; you can do this.

GMSVP CLUB HELP WANTED

Webmaster

Our webmaster, Holly Worsham, has retired from her job and relocated to be near her family in New England.

So as of September 1st, our club is without a webmaster. Please consider volunteering to be our club's webmaster. Holly has done the hard work of upgrading our website. The new webmaster can focus on updating links and adding and deleting items (mostly copy and paste from other sources such as the newsletter). The web tool that Holly used is very user friendly, and Holly is willing to remotely train a new webmaster.

You don't need any special skills other than knowing how to use a computer.

Our club needs your help! Please help by being our next webmaster! Please let our club president, Vinton Feanny (FeannyVin@gmail.com), know if you are interested. This position helps attract new members to our club and can be very rewarding and a great opportunity to help the club.

Property Manager

GMSVP is in need of a Property Manager, who would manage our shed at Sandy Bottom Nature Park and maintain our club's Genie grinding/polishing machines and rock saws. The Property Manager may also assist the TOTE Show committee by ordering geodes to be sold at the shows. These property manager duties are presently being done by various club officers, who have other important responsibilities. Please volunteer! Just let Vinton Feanny (FeannyVin@gmail.com) know, if you are interested!

TOTE Show Coordinator

GMSVP also needs a club member to lead our club's Treasures of the Earth Show activity. Our treasurer, Gary Bergtholdt, is presently coordinating the shows as a collateral duty, which takes away from his prime duty. The Show Coordinator orders the geodes and coordinates club volunteers and activities at the shows.

Pebble Pups Coordinator

GMSVP also needs a club member to assist our Pebble Pups Coordinator, Christine Hempley. The Pebble Pups Coordinators plans activities for our club's young rockhounds to work toward AFMS Future Rockhounds of America Badges. The coordinator leads a breakout meeting during our monthly meetings with our club's Pebble Pups.

Chiastolite crystals just don't look right. They are generally opaque creamy white with a black X drawn across the face as if a machinist was locating the center before drilling a hole. But there is no hole. They look like un-hole-y beads. But they are, in fact, natural crystals of andalusite and the X's are natural formations. They are especially fascinating because no one is sure how the X's form.

Andalusite ($\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_4)\text{O}$) is a metamorphic rock-forming mineral mined for use in high temperature materials. In most cases, the white porcelain in spark plugs is made from andalusite. It is found in schist and gneiss at some tectonic boundaries where plates came smashing together with high pressure and high temperatures. The crystals have a square cross section with larger faces nearly perpendicular to each other. There are sometimes narrow faces along the long edges. Unfortunately, good crystals are rare and most are rough and imbedded in matrix making faces indistinct. Micromounters typically see better crystals.

Some andalusite crystals contain black X's drawn diagonally across the square cross section. The crystals break easily across the long c axis and when polished the X's stand out dramatically. Such crystals are known as chiastolites from the Greek *chiastos* meaning marked with an X, and that word comes from the Greek letter Chi which is an X. The X's in the crystals contain carbon plus some types of colorless mica trapped in the crystals. It's not clear how the X's form.

One theory is that the crystal growing in a carbon rich matrix "pushes aside" impurities including carbon and the impurities are concentrated along the diagonals to form an X. This theory is commonly found in books and articles, but it isn't clear how exactly that could happen. Also, this does not account for the thickening of the carbon lines at the outer edges of the crystals. This "feathering" can be delicate or bold, and in some cases can give the crystal the appearance of four white andalusite arms joined at a point in the middle.

Another theory proposed in 1934 suggests that the carbon is selectively attracted to the four edges of the crystals and as the crystals grow the carbon draws an X. Wikipedia refers to this idea as "the most widely accepted theory".

Two specimens shown here come from the Blue Wing Mountains near Lovelock, Nevada. Those mountains are made up of black, graphite-rich pyroxene-hornfels. Such graphite-rich rock is thought to have been formed by a granite intrusion into oil-rich shale. The decomposition of the oil could account for the carbon making the rock emplacement dark and supplying the carbon to form chiastolite X's.

A further peculiarity is at the cores of some crystals. The very center of some crystals contains a black square with the arms of the X radiating outward from the corners of the black square. Still other crystals have a small square of carbon outlining the white core of the crystal, with the arms of the X's radiating outward from the corners.

Chiastolites are not rare, so there are lots of examples around. You could build a nice subcollection of different types of Chiastolites. Besides being a good show-off in a collection, chiastolite is a good ponder stone when you need a mystery to ponder.



Andalusite var Chiastolite, Lovelock, Pershing County, Nevada. Field of View 25 mm.



Chiastolite, Blue Wing Mountains, Pershing County, Nevada. The arms spring from a central black core and are thickened a bit by "feathering". Field of view 15 mm.



Chiastolite, Moores Flat, Mariposa County, California. Just visible in this specimen is a central light core outlined in black with the arms widening near the outer corners of the crystal. This feathering can make a specimen look like a Maltese cross formed by four light colored arms meeting at a central point. Field of view 16 mm.

The 28th Annual Richmond Gem & Mineral Society Rock Sale and Swap

**Saturday, November 9th, 2019
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

*The Rock Sale/Swap is indoors (overflow will be in the parking lot), so come rain or shine!
Open to children and adults (from novice to expert) to purchase or trade (swap) mineral, gem, fossil, shell,
and jewelry and lapidary specimens.*

**Ridge Baptist Church Meeting Hall
1515 East Ridge Road, Richmond, VA 23229**

- Doors open at 7:00 a.m. for inside setup. Inside table fees are \$20.00 per table (regardless of 6' or 8' table size) and are limited (44 total tables). RGMS will provide all interior tables which are a mix of 6' and 8'.
- Parking lot spaces are \$20 for approximately 6 spaces and you must provide your own tables.
- Everyone please bring your own table coverings.

To register for a table(s) or exterior space, please download the registration form and mail (with fee) to the address listed on the form. We suggest a 2 table limit. Table reservations are based on "first received, first assigned".

ALL PARTICIPANTS - PLEASE LABEL YOUR MATERIAL Please have at least one flat of good material specifically labeled for children and novice collectors for swap (trade) or give away. Promote the hobby!

To defray sale/swap costs, RGMS asks that each seller/swapper provide a least one nice specimen or similar item for our annual auction. Please no junk!

Food and beverages are available at near-by restaurants. Restroom facilities are available in the building.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Andy Dietz (dietziv@yahoo.com)

DIRECTIONS: Since 1998 the swap has been at this location in Henrico County near Regency Square Mall and Douglas S. Freeman High School.

North or South of Richmond, Virginia:

Use I-95 to Exit 79 to I-64 West (North of Richmond City).
Leave I-64 at Exit 181A (South) on Parham Road.
Proceed south on Parham Road for about 1.5 miles and TURN LEFT ONTO EAST RIDGE ROAD. (A right turn at this intersection takes you onto Quioccasin Road to Regency Square Mall).
The Ridge Baptist Church and Meeting Hall are 400 feet on the right, across from Kroger's Grocery.
MEETING HALL IS THE WHITE BUILDING at the rear of the parking lot.
There is ample parking in front of the Meeting Hall. Swap signs will mark both entrances.

East or West of Richmond, Virginia

Use I-64 to Exit 181A (South) and follow the directions above.

Desautels Symposium

Mark Your Calendar

63rd Annual

Paul Desautels Micromount Symposium

October 11, 12, 13, 2019

Friends School of Baltimore

5114 N Charles St

Baltimore, MD 21210

Giveaway Tables, Silent Auction,
Voice Auction, Sales, Mineral Talks,
Trading, Lots of Friends

---- Hall of Fame Inductions ----

Anne Cook, Cleveland

Jesse Cope Green 1817 - 1920

For program and registration forms email

Mike Seeds

mseeds@fandm.edu

2 or 3 GMSVP Members Needed to Help at RGMS Rock Swap

The club needs your help on November 9th at the Richmond Club's Rock Swap. GMSVP has reserved two tables at the swap and will be selling specimens and findings that the club has obtained in past years that take up space in the shed. It's a great opportunity to meet others interested in rocks and minerals. There also will be many opportunities to find interesting additions to your personal collections. Contact Gary Bertholdt (gbergtholdt@gmail.com), if you can help.

NEW GEM, MINERAL, & JEWELRY SHOW

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2019, NOON TO 6 PM.

SPONSORED BY THE DC GEM, LAPIDARY, & MINERAL SOCIETY CHAPTER

ADMISSION-\$4 NON-MEMBER, \$3 MEMBER,

CHILDREN 12 & UNDER FREE

ROUGH! GEMS! BEADS! MINERALS! JEWELRY!

DOOR PRIZES EVERY HOUR

LOCATED AT THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF BETHESDA

5500 SONOMA ROAD

BETHESDA, MD

CORNER OF SONOMA & OLD GEORGETOWN

PARKING IS FREE

WANT MORE INFO? CONTACT TIM MORGAN, SHOW CHAIR, AT TIMOTHYMORGAN@MAC.COM OR CALL HIM AT 301-325-3171

(Print this announcement for free admission, one per customer)

OFFICIAL MINERAL COLLECTING FIELD TRIP

THE GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY OF LYNCHBURG, VA INC. (HOST)

An official Field trip of the Gem and Mineral Society of the Virginia Peninsula

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

WILLIS MOUNTAIN KYANITE MINE

(Office) 30 Willis Mt. Plant Lane, Dillwyn, Virginia 23936

If the mine is working, we may have to limit our collecting areas

September 28, 2019; 9:00 AM to 1 PM

Sign-up is required, call me, email me or sign-up at the meeting. If you cancel, notify me to be taken off the list. Space may be limited due to the large list of clubs now participating in this annual event.

All club field trip leaders send me a list of your total collectors so that I can compile a list and forward to the mine management by 9-24-19. There is a limit of 150 collectors from all clubs for this event so there should be room for everyone.

SAFETY: Everyone must plan to arrive at the office parking lot between 7:30 AM and no later than 8:30 AM to read and sign the updated Liability Form, Hazard Training & Recognition Check List Form and hear the mandatory safety briefing before entering the mine at 9 AM. Each Club field trip leader, or their appointed replacement, will act as a safety official while in the mine. Every person is expected to be on the lookout for and call immediate attention to any safety infractions from any collector from any club. Keep in mind that this site is one of the very few that are still open for collecting. Not obeying all the safety rules will cause this site to be closed to all future collecting.

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

GENERAL LOCATION and ASSEMBLY TIME: Everyone will meet at the mine office for sign-in and safety instruction so be there no later than 8:30 am. Wait in the parking lot. While you're waiting, be sure to enjoy the beautiful blue kyanite bolder in the front yard from the old closed Baker Mountain.

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



OFFICIAL MINERAL COLLECTING FIELD TRIP (CONT'D)

EQUIPMENT: The standard quarry safety gear required is a hard hats with a mfg. date of 5 years or less (everyone must have an approved hard hat....no bicycle helmets. Small heads can wear a ball cap under the hard hat), safety glasses, respiratory protection from rock dust you may encounter, a pair of wheel chocks either purchased, home made or even a rock is acceptable. Every time you leave the car, turn off the engine, put in park and apply the hand brake and wheel chocks. ONLY STEEL OR REINFORCED COMPOSITE TOED BOOTS, SPORT SHOES OR TENNIS SHOES WILL BE ALLOWED THIS YEAR. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS!!! If you do not have all the required minimum safety equipment, hard hat, safety shoes, and safety glasses, you will not be allowed to enter the quarry. Also required are **long pants, gloves**, hammer and chisels, wrapping paper, buckets, **water** as it is very important to stay hydrated as it may be very hot. ***If you have any medical condition that would put you in any danger, do not attempt this trip. For your own safety, let your field trip leader or collecting buddy know if you have any medical condition that could be a problem for you.*** Be prepared for windy, hot or wet weather. We will be on the mountain top and it's always windy. We can drive to the designated collecting area, so hand trucks should not be needed. Bring a camera, as the view is awesome.



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



AGE LIMIT: There is no age limit, but no toddlers please. All children must be signed for, closely supervised by an adult and never left un-attended. They must also have all the required safety equipment. No Exceptions!!! If parents have any questions about what is acceptable for your child, please call me and we will discuss it.



PETS: No pets allowed, this is an active working quarry.

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

CONTACT: David Callahan,
Land line phone 540-297-
1853 (leave a message
please): The Willis Mt. field
trip coordinator for the
Lynchburg Club. Contact
Email Joan Moore at
jmoore64@msn.com or David
Callahan at dbcalls1@aol.com



Graves Mountain Rock Swap and Dig
October 4th - 6th, 2019
Lincolnton, Georgia
Official Field Trip of the Mountain Area Gem and Mineral Association

I have been in contact with Jr. Norman about his upcoming "Rock Swap and Dig" at the mountain.

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.

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 number 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 the Thursday before the dig. All MAGMA members are welcome to come in on Thursday and collect as long as they plan to attend at least one other day of the show, Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. Special Vendor Dig Day! This year, Jr. is letting vendors only in to collect on Wednesday, October 2nd, to dig and collect. Us vendors rarely get to get away from our booth to rock hunt, so this is great. You must be a vendor to come on Wednesday. Everyone else is welcome to come in on Thursday as long as they plan to stay for the weekend.

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 6:00 p.m. (Absolutely no one is allowed on Graves Mountain after dark.)

Please protect our ability to field collect at Graves Mountain! Report violations to: Jr. Norman, Norman C E Wrecking Co., 3333 C E Norman Rd, Lincolnton, GA 30817-3110. Tel: 706-401-3173. All reported violations will be held in strict confidence.

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

Motels and Camping: Jr. has advised that the Soap Creek Lodge and campground is open again and will be offering a discount to rockhounds visiting the area for the weekend. The restaurant will also be open.

- Cullars Inn, Lincolnton, Georgia, 706-359-6161
- Soap Creek Lodge, Clarks Hill Lake, Lincolnton, 706-359-4100
- Elijah Clark State Park, 706-359-3458 / 800-864-7275

**Pipsico Scout Reservation
Surry County, Virginia
Miocene and Pliocene Fossils
November 22 – 24, 2019**

Official field trip of the Mountain Area Gem and Mineral Association

A field trip has been set up for November 2019. The location is the same. Collecting will be allowed on Saturday, the 23rd of November.

Campers may come in on Friday night the 22nd. Friday afternoon arrivals may collect on the river. There are cabinettes available with electricity but no running water. There are four cabins available with full facilities. Tent camping is also allowed. Tents may be set up in campsite 4, and there are latrine facilities and water in the site. Showers may be available at the staff center. All overnight campers must exit the camp by noon on the 24th.



All previous collecting rules still apply.

- No climbing of steep river bank areas.
- No parking except in designated areas.
- No alcoholic beverages.
- No pets.
- Speed limit on camp road must be obeyed.

Fees: \$5 per person to collect or tent camp. Cabin Rental: \$75. Cabinette Rental: \$20. The town of Surry now has an inn on route 10, it is called the Surry Country Inn for those not wanting to camp but traveling in. Their number is: 757-210-4450.

Contact Bill Stine by email at: rockdoctor48@wmconnect.com for further information.

Directions to the scout camp from North Carolina: Head north on Interstate 85 or 95. Both Interstates will intersect Virginia Route 40. Take these exits and head east on 40. Follow RT. 40 to U.S. 460 at Waverly. Cross 460 and head to Spring Grove. It is 11.9 miles from 460. Here you will cross RT. 10 and bear to the right. In 0.3 miles, you will see Swanns Point Rd. You will bear to the right here and follow for 5.7 miles to the camp entrance on the left.



Visit a Show

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

- October 4-6:** Rock, Mineral, Gem, Jewelry & Fossil Show by Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society Inc. Florida National Guard Armory, 2809 S. Fern Creek Ave., Orlando, FL 32806. Website: www.cfmgs.org. Contact: President Salvatore Sansone 321-278-9294 or ssfossilhunter@aol.com.
- October 5:** Annual SHOW/SWAP by Pennsylvania Earth Sciences Association, Inc. Macungie Memorial Park, Macungie, PA. Website: www.mineralfest.com
- October 11-13:** Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society Gem, Jewelry, and Mineral Show. Jaycee Community Building, 2180 Airport Road SW, Huntsville, Alabama. Info: 256-534-8803.
- October 12-13:** Walworth Quarry Open House - Public Dig. Times: 7 AM to 2 PM on Saturday; 7 AM to 12 PM noon on Sunday. Walworth Quarry, 1200 Atlantic Ave., Walworth, NY 14568
- October 18-20:** Knoxville Gem & Mineral Society's 29th Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show. Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN.
- October 19:** The Saco Valley Gem and Mineral Club Annual Show and Auction. Albany Town Hall, 1972 B NH RT 16, Albany, NH 03818. Contact: Jonathan Herndon, 197 Rice Hill Rd, Freedom, NH 03836. Website: <https://www.sacovalleygemandmineralclub.org/>
- October 19-20:** 47th Annual Kanawha Rock & Gem Club show and sale. So. Charleston Community Center; 601 Jefferson Road, So. Charleston, WV. Contact: Robbin Maxwell, PO Box 4414, Clarksburg WV 26502, (304) 695-1586; e-mail: mystical.gifts@hotmail.com; Website: <https://www.kanawharockandgemclub.org/>
- October 19-20:** Bristol Gem & Mineral Show / SWAP. Beals Community Center, 240 Stafford St in Bristol, CT. Website: <https://bristolgem.org/>
- October 26-27:** Rochester Gem, Mineral, Jewelry and Fossil Show & Sale. Total Sports Experience, 435 West Commercial Street, East Rochester, NY 14445. Website: <http://www.rochesterlapidary.org/show/>
- October 26-27:** Rhode Island Mineral Hunters, Inc. Annual Mineral Show. Community College of RI; Knight Campus. 400 East Av; Warwick, RI. Website: <http://rimh.us/id7.html>
- October 26:** Ultraviolation (Fluorescent Minerals) Show by Rock and Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County. First United Methodist Church, 840 Trenton Rd, Fairless Hills, PA. Lee McIlvaine, 8510 Elliston Dr. Wyndmoor, PA 19038. Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/lowerbucksparocks/shows> & Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/rockclublowerbucksco/>. Contact: Lee McIlvaine at 215-713-8020 or e-mail uvgeologist@yahoo.com
- November 2-3:** Annual show; Tuscarora Lapidary Society. Greater Philadelphia EXPO Center, 100 Station Avenue, Hall D. Contact: (610) 490-5252; Email: Information@lapidary.org; Website: www.lapidary.org
- November 2-3:** The Stamford Mineralogical Society 31st Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, and Fossil Show and Sale. Eastern Greenwich Civic Center, 90 Harding Road, Old Greenwich, CT 06870. Website: <https://www.stamfordmineralsociety.org/>
- November 9:** Annual Rock Swap. Richmond Gem and Mineral Society. Ridge Baptist Church Hall, 1515 Eastridge Rd; Richmond, VA. Website: <http://rgms-va.info/activities/>
- November 9:** 6th Annual Discovering Earth's Wonders Fall Show. Lancaster Fossil and Mineral Club. Trinity Reformed United Church of Christ 450 West Main Street Mountville, PA. Contact: Catherine P Haefner Co-Founder & Treasurer (717-917-5442) or Christopher L Haefner Co-Founder & President (717-606-4450). Website: <https://www.facebook.com/LancasterFossilandMineralClub/>
- November 9-10:** The NYC Fall Show. New York Mineralogical Club, Inc. Watson Hotel, 440 W 57 St., New York City, NY. Website: <http://www.newyorkmineralogicalclub.org/show/>



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.