

Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club



Rock Talk



October, 2015

Message from the President

First, I would like to welcome back Bob Davidson from his back surgery. Hope it gives you more freedom to collect and design stones for cutting.

Cheryl Reese has turned the Treasurer position over to Dave Lines while she is taking care of Lamont during his chemotherapy. All club members are thinking positive for the both of you.

The club is looking for volunteers to take on club positions starting with the President for the following year. Please contact Polly Zimmerman or myself if you want to help with the direction of the club into 2016. It promises to be an interesting year. New leadership brings on new ideas and ways forward that can make the club something better than before.

Please seriously think of participating in leading the club.

This December, we have been invited to Dave Lines house for the Holiday Pot Luck/Gift Exchange Party/Meeting. More details will be shared in the upcoming meetings along with simple directions. It promises to be an event not to be missed.

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**Next Meeting:
October 27, 2015@7:00 PM**

Program: Geode Cracking

Jim White

Refreshments:

TBD

Clearwater Nature Center, 11000 Thrift Road, Clinton, MD.

SMRMC Meeting minutes for July 28, 2015

Submitted by Dave Lines

New Members --- Leo (I did not catch his last name) --- likes rocks and wants to learn more.

Upcoming at Next meeting --- Auction and Potluck --- Gary suggested inviting other clubs. Bob will send out an email invite to all our members.

Website --- Bob tried to put newsletter on website --- some problems. New Rock show date is Jan 16th.

Rock Show --- (This is a summary of what happened --- Recent meeting of Show committee with Kyle Lowe shows that only date left to rent Show Place Arena is Jan 16th. Dave summarizes Kyle Lowe meeting discussion for club as follows --- [basically, Rent for one day of Showplace costs \$12,000 and CWNC had received a discount for ½ price at \$6400. Total admission receipts and table rent fees made it break even --- at best. Kyle Lowe said they had had several requests to rent ShowPlace for whole 3 days at full price of \$12K per day. Decision made by Committee to drop plans to hold show at ShowPlace Arena due too high cost and potential loss of \$36,000 to NCPPC.] Discussion at Rock Club meeting followed with Bob saying too much emphasis on making Rock Show bigger --- he feels bigger shows are wrong direction to go. Bob feels smaller shows are the way to go. A heated discussion followed with Bob, Gary, Harry, Ralph, Tom, Cindy, Dave and Tim all making comments. Discussion had many complaints and suggestions regarding many sore subjects --- waning club interest due fewer field trips; field trip notices need more details of what to expect for each trip; lapidary club formation was seen as an unfair and divisive issue due to the way it occurred and loss of lapidary privileges to

Rock club members unless they paid dues to two clubs; what do our members want to do --- a poll suggested. Discussion grew loud and contentious until Mel moved to recess the meeting. Meeting recessed (ended) at 8:10 p.m.

SMRMC Meeting minutes for August 25, 2015

Submitted by Dave Lines

Guests ---Tim Smith's wife and daughter; many spouses of members present.

Tonight's Auction --- no items from CWNC --- only items brought by Club Members

Minutes --- Last month's minutes missing --- Dave's fault --- he will get them to Editor.

Membership --- Polly absent

Field trips --- Upcoming trips --- Jim hopes to get a trip set up to U.S. Silica in Montpelier.VA. Past weekend trip to Willis mountain --- had 5 members attending --- all found some good specimens of kyanite and turgite.

Programs --- Carole absent. Dave and Ann volunteered to host club's Christmas Party at their house in La Plata on Friday, December 11th.

Newsletter --- Tim in Florida. He requested more pictures and articles be sent to him.

Website --- Bob said August newsletter already on website.

Old Business --- none (no mention of Rock Show)

New Business --- A. Gary and Cindy sick with stomach flu. B. March 2015 Program --- Mr. Fritz of "Gemology Institute (equivalent) of UK" is willing to be the speaker.

Meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

SEPTEMBER MINUTES

Submitted by Linda Holden

DATE: Meeting was called to order on September 22 at 7:15 pm. Rich shared pictures of his granddaughter.

VISITORS/NEW MEMBERS: No visitors.

MEMBERSHIP: Polly reported no change.

NEWSLETTER: Please send reports and other items of interest to Tim as early as possible so he can get the newsletter out on time. Be sure to check out the EFMLS Newsletter.

FIELD TRIPS: Field trip to National Limestone Quarry with Montgomery County is this coming weekend. No other field trips are planned. It was suggested that Jim contact Cheryl to coordinate a field trip to collect shark's teeth on the Bay.

TREASURER: No treasurer's report.

MINUTES Minutes were not submitted from the auction in August.

PROGRAMS: Carole reported that all the slots for programs and refreshments are filled for this year. Polly and Carole provided refreshments for tonight. The program for tonight was "Micro Fossils" presented by Tim Foard. Jim White is doing the program in October. November will feature Steve Wineberger presenting "Good Things Come in Small Packages." Carole is looking ahead to January. She has called other clubs for speakers. Rich will be going to Taiwan so he may miss the October or November meeting. NOTE : Our November meeting will be moved to Tuesday November 17th due to Thanksgiving. Date changes will be posted in the newsletter and on the website. The Christmas Party this year will be held at the home of Dave Lines on Friday December 11th. Please mark your calendar. Come and see his new rock museum.

WEBMASTER: No report. Check out Bob's report on our auction proceeds in the newsletter. He is

getting ready for back surgery. He will be out for the next several months. [Keep him in your thoughts and prayers.]

OLD BUSINESS: There is no rock show at this time. We may have to go outside the center if we want to have a show. Rich mentioned that there may be a location nearby in Upper Marlboro that he is looking into. Do we still want to have a show in February? If we do, the club would have the responsibility to do it. We will have to talk about it. There's a lot to find out about. We still have a committee. We would have to supply all the man power. Rich said Kyle Lowe, Park Ranger Supervisor is willing to work with us. Rich thought Kyle would be here tonight. Elections need to be coordinated. Nominations are needed soon. Rich requested that someone volunteer to be President. Polly volunteered to be on the nomination committee. We are looking for new blood.

NEW BUSINESS: None Other Shows : * Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore 51st Gem and Jewery Show is this weekend. * The Annual Show of the Rock and Mineral Club of Lower Buck Co. Fairness Hills, PA is October 31and features fluorescents. * Richmond Swap is the second weekend in November. Polly went to a wonderful rock show in Ontario, Canada. Rich shared some newsletters from other clubs.

ADJOURNED: Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm. sold.

Rocks, Minerals, and Fossils in the News

Rock, Gem and Jewelry Show at Trailside Nature & Science Center, Nov. 7-8

http://www.nj.com/suburbannews/index.ssf/2015/10/rock_gem_and_jewelry_show_at_t.html

By [Suburban News](#)

on October 20, 2015 at 4:17 PM



The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Department of Parks and Recreation invite you to explore the fascinating world of rocks, minerals, fossils and gems at Trailside Nature and Science Center on Saturday, Nov. 7 and Sunday, Nov. 8, from noon-5 p.m. on both days.

"This two-day event brings rocks and gems to life with many exhibits and displays," said Freeholder Chairman Mohamed S. Jalloh, "There is something for everyone at this unique event."

Sponsored jointly with the New Jersey Mineralogical Society, the Rock, Gem and Jewelry Show will host more than 20 vendors selling minerals, rocks, gemstones, jewelry, sea shells and fossils from around the world. Geologists young and old will be mesmerized by the variety of specimens on display and for sale. Children can purchase geodes, arrowheads and fluorescent minerals, while adults may enjoy the jewelry, fine gems and collector-grade pieces. Free children's activities are available. Admission to the event on both days is free.

For more information about the Rock, Gem and Jewelry Show call Trailside at 908-789-3670. Visit

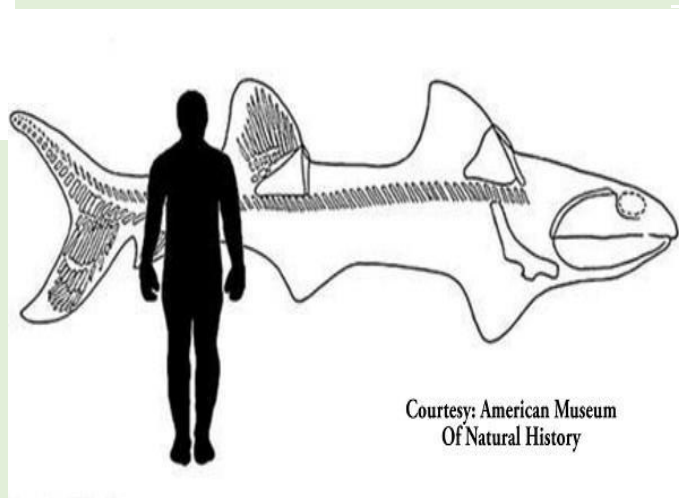
www.ucnj.org/trailside for additional information on programs offered this fall at Trailside. Trailside Nature and Science Center is located at 452 New Providence Road in Mountainside and is a service of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Jacksboro "Supershark" Fossils Found at Lost Creek Reservoir

Dave Caulfield

Posted: Oct 23, 2015 8:44 PM EDT

<http://www.newschannel6now.com/story/30338711/jacksboro-supershark-fossils-found-at-lost-creek-reservoir>



Jacksboro is the county seat of Jack County, and home of the Tigers.

But a long time ago, Jacksboro was the home of a "supershark."

"{The shark} from a totally extinct family, there's nothing alive today that's terribly close," explained renowned paleontologist Dr. Robert Bakker.

"It so cool to have a 27 foot shark roaming our cold age waters."

The fossils of the "supershark" were found at the Lost Creek Reservoir four years ago in Jacksboro, by two amateur paleontologists from Dallas.

Three hundred million years ago, when the shark was alive, everything in Texas was covered by water, and was part of the Western Interior Seaway.

Because of the findings, which were presented at a Paleontology Conference in Dallas last week, scientists now know sharks are at least 170 million years older than previously thought. The fossils are of the shark's brain cases and teeth.

Bakker explained the differences between the 27 foot long "supershark" and today's smaller great white.

"Imagine the typical shark today, the white shark. It has two dorsal fins in the back. Now take those two fins, and give each one a gigantic saw edge bone spike in the front, and you've got these ancient Paleozoic spike sharks."

The "supershark" is not the biggest shark fossil ever found. That title goes to the Shark Week Favorite, Megalodon, measuring around 60 feet long. When Bakker saw the findings last week on the "supershark," he nearly fell over.

There's a theory that evolution comes in waves, according to Bakker, and among the rarest of new species are super apex predators in the ocean like the super shark.

Even so, given the right conditions, these prehistoric predators, could roam the seas again.

"There may be forces in nature that produce super giant sharks, given enough time," Bakker hypothesized.

Unfortunately if you want to see these fossils, they are no longer in Texas. They were donated to the American Museum of National History in New York, where much of the studies on the fossils was completed.

Mountain Mushroom Festival / Agate Hunt

Tina League

April 22-26, 2015: Harry, Tina, Joe, Paula, Monty and Cheryl participated in the three day annual Kentucky Banded Agate Hunt in Irvine, Kentucky. The agate hunt took place Tuesday thru Thursday and the Gem and Mineral Show/ Mountain Mushroom Festival activities took place Friday thru Sunday. Each morning a group of 40+ rockhounds gathered at the Board of Education Administration Building in Irvine, Kentucky for registration, instructions and organizing the caravan of vehicles to drive to the collecting site. Our guide and legendary Agate hunter Lamon brought samples each morning to be divvied out to the eager rockhounds. The people that drove the farthest to get to Kentucky got to pick their specimens first. There were rockhounds from all over the world for the hunt. Everyone got several specimens each day and were eager to get to the creeks to look for the elusive Kentucky Banded Agate which contains some of the most beautiful specimens in the world. Hip waders and rain boots were the order of the day due to the historic rains that had occurred in the area during the spring.

On the first day of the hunt in the countryside of Irvine "Where the Bluegrass Kisses the Mountains" the caravan of vehicles parked in the field adjacent to the logging roads that ran along the creek. The roads were in poor condition due to the lack of use during the past year and the overabundance of rain. We had to gather up our tools and buckets and hike the old logging roads, wading thru the overflowing creeks for a few miles to search for agate. Everyone spent the day digging along the side of the creek beds and scooping stones from the water. There were lots of broken pieces of agate in the creeks that displayed the intricate and colorful patterns of the banded agate.

We found several "could be great" whole agates to take home and cut at a later date.

On the second day a few trucks were able to navigate some of the rough roads and provide a little relief

from the long hike out. Tales were told and agate finds were plenty.

After agate hunting closed for the day, we decided to go to Danville and collect some Geodes before the sun set.

On day three, the water levels had receded enough that everyone got together and built a rock bridge for the caravan of trucks that volunteer rockhounds offered to give everyone a ride to the collecting areas.

It was quite a ride! Trucks were packed to capacity (actually- over capacity) with people and equipment.

The bumpy ride was almost as much fun as the collecting.



On Friday, we managed to get an invitation to go on a geode hunt at Kings Mountain with the BBGMC.

We hunted for geodes along a railroad cut. The geodes were embedded in the walls of the cut and strewn along the ground from sections of the wall that had eroded away. They were formed in a very "soft" material that made them easy to break (a little too easy- many were destroyed). The geodes contained calcite, amethyst, celestine, and a variety of other minerals. Hard hats were a must due to the trains that rolled steadily by during the day shaking the ground and the loose rocks above our heads. We found some very nice specimens and enjoyed "working on the railroad all day"...

Saturday morning the rain made a reappearance just in time for the Mushroom Festival. It did not dampen the spirits of the local residents, and the festival went on as scheduled. We attended the rock show and were impressed with the magnificent display that Lamson had of his agate collection. We enjoyed talking with the vendors and purchasing a few new specimens to take back home. We walked the streets of the town and visited the vendors at the Mushroom Festival tents. There were plenty of mushrooms to try and to buy and many other crafts and activities to watch. Fun was had by all.

We said "goodbye and thank you" to eastern Kentucky and drove home to Maryland that afternoon.





**Dave's Recipe for Polishing Patuxent River Stone:
"The Very Under-Appreciated Maryland State
Gemstone"**

Dave Lines

1. Using a 12 pound Lortone tumbler, fill with about 6 pounds (less than rated capacity, but this tumbler is old and works better with less load) of Patuxent River Stone of various sizes from 1" to 3".
2. For the 1st tumbling, add 6 tablespoons of 60-90 grit and half-fill barrel with water and tumble for 11 days.
3. Washed off rocks thoroughly and weighed --- about 5 pounds left. Scrub each stone individually with a brush to eliminate carryover contamination of grit.
4. For 2nd tumbling, add 6 tablespoons of 120 grit and half-fill barrel with water and tumble for 9 days.
5. Washed off rocks thoroughly and weighed --- about 4 ¾ pounds left.
6. For 3rd tumbling, added 8 tablespoons of 600 grit and half-fill barrel ½ with water and tumbled for a week.
7. Wash off rocks thoroughly and weighed --- still about 4 ¾ pounds left.
8. For polishing, divided pre-tumbled rocks into 2 batches and put 1st batch (about 2 ½ pounds) in a small (3 Pound size) Thumbs Tumbler --- added 3 tablespoons of tin oxide and 1 teaspoon of powdered Tide detergent.

9. Add plastic pellets (small approximately 3/16" diameter) to bring level of barrel up to ¾ full --- then added water to just a little above the ¾ full level. (Note: this part is a little tricky as the plastic pellets float and you have to keep them pushed down with your hand while you add the water to keep the pellets in the barrel.)

10. Tumble for 1- 2 weeks (1 week should be enough, but due to other events, they tumbled an extra week.)

11. Wash off rocks thoroughly and dry with an old towel.

San Simeon Rockhounds

by Dave Lines

Our day began early. Wes picked me up shortly after sunrise. After a brief reunion with Ralph and John, who were in the back seat, I climbed into the front seat of Wes' truck and we left San Luis Obispo and headed north along the coastal highway past intriguing names like Morro Bay and Cayucos Point.

On the way, we caught up with each other's lives since our last adventure together in 2011 in Quartzsite (Planet Mine north of Bouse, AZ). During the next hour or so, we also recounted some of our previous outings like the day about 14 years ago when Wes broke in his then brand new F-350 on Questa Ridge when we went searching for aragonite in an old chrome mine.

Planning for today's adventure had started several weeks before when I sent Wes an email saying that my wife Ann and I were coming to California for a visit with her sister --- and while we were there, could he (Wes) set up a rock trip for the four of us?

In his usual fashion, Wes came through with a great place to look for beautiful agates and brecciated jaspers. It was on a 6,000 acre private ranch along San Simeon Creek near the Hearst Castle property.

When we arrived at the rancher's house, he was in another truck preparing to pull out. After we

exchanged pleasantries, Wes gave the owner (Juan) a gorgeous polished sphere of red, yellow and white brecciated jasper from a specimen that Wes had previously found on this property. And then John gave him another sphere of a different jasper from a nearby location. Wow --- these guys really know how to keep a landowner happy!

We left the ranch yard and drove east along the paved road that bordered the creek for a mile or so until we found a suitable place to park. The weather was predicted to be sunny and warm --- like it always seems to be in that part of southern California. In fact, however, they were in a severe multi-year drought as witnessed by the creek which was totally dry and the surrounding hills which were brown and dead. Yet the whole area was still beautiful and quiet --- almost serene.



Unloading ourselves from Wes' truck, we dug out some buckets, canvas bags and some rock hammers -- and posed for a picture together in front of my camera which has one of those self-timer shutters. Later when I got back home, the picture showed four old guys --- where had the years gone? We looked a bit gray and worn.



But these guys are my good buddies. They are true friends in the best sense of the word. And don't kid yourself --- these four have well over a hundred years of cumulative experience finding great rocks. Wes has a fabulous sphere collection and a top notch sphere making business. [You may visit his website at "SphereHeaven.com".] Ralph has a world-class lapidary and fossil collection housed in a spectacular private museum. I have never seen John's rocks, but he is an avid collector and even builds and sells sphere making machines.

Anyway, back to our story. The creek bed was covered with rounded cobbles of all sizes. To me, almost every rock looked like a keeper.



During the first hour that morning, I probably showed Wes at least 30 different rocks of brecciated jasper that I thought were all nice. But Wes was patient with me --- and his reply was about the same each time: "It is a "C" grade rock. We are looking for "A"

grade rocks. An “A” grade rock has a good pattern, is very solid and is colorful. You will recognize one when you see it. Keep looking.”

We spread out. I went searching downstream for about ½ mile. I pulled out potential winners from under the brush and looked for the telltale small portion of a good rock just peeking above the surface.

There were plenty of rocks to look among and I could see signs that other rockhounds had been here, too. Little piles of “leaverites” here and there.

Occasionally, I spotted rocks that had been broken open or chipped with a rock pick to see what was inside. Nevertheless, I did find a few that were shinier and more solid than most. And some of them had very good color. But they were probably no better than a “B” grade. Eventually, I started getting hungry enough (and the rocks in my collecting bag became heavy enough) to begin the trek back toward the truck.

Near the truck there was some nice cool shade under some large sycamore trees and a place to sit and eat lunch. Soon John showed up and he had several nice small ones plus a big boulder of brecciated jasper that he had already put in the truck. We talked about things --- life, family, health stuff. After we got rejuvenated, we headed back to the creek where we found Wes and Ralph returning from upstream. We compared finds --- everyone had found some rocks with good potential. We would not know until we sawed them open later.

It had been a good day together. We were tired, but happy. On the trip home, we enjoyed each other’s company as well as hearing Ralph’s funny stories.

Wes refused to let me fill up his truck with gas. Back at my sister-in-law’s house, we parted --- until next time. I would visit both Wes and Ralph later that trip with my brother-in-law.

A week or so later, Wes emailed me a picture of one of his finds that he had sawed open --- it was an “AA” grade, for sure! It had a great pattern and was very solid and had four colors --- red, yellow, green and white.



He planned to give it to a friend. Wes is generous. I am blessed to be able to call him my friend. The same goes for Ralph and John.

Member’s Finds

These fossils of coral in limestone were collected by Paul and Linda Holden during a trip to Alberta, Canada.



Collected any interesting specimens? Send a photo or two to the editor at bmorebugman@yahoo.com for inclusion in the next issue of Rock Talk.

Upcoming Shows and Events: 2015

October 31: Annual Show, The Rock and Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County, First United Methodist Church, 840 Trenton Rd, Fairless Hills, PA

October 31: South Penn Fall Rock Swap, hosted by the Franklin County and Central PA Rock and Mineral Clubs. South Mountain Fairgrounds 1.5 mi. W on Route 2, Arendtsville, PA

November 7-8: 46th Annual Gemarama 2915: "Rocks in the USA" hosted by the Tuscarora Lapidary Society. NEW LOCATION: Greater Philadelphia EXPO Center, Hall C; Oaks, PA

November 7-8: Rock, Gem, and Jewelry Show at Trailside Nature and Science Center hosted in part by the New Jersey Mineralogical Society, 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside, NJ.

November 14-15: New York City Gem and Mineral Show sponsored by the New York Mineralogical Club. Holiday Inn Midtown Manhattan, 440 W 57th St, New York City, NY.

SMRMC OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Rich Simcsak
sadsack56@msn.com

Membership Chairman

Polly Zimmerman
polly.zimmerman@verizon.net

Programs Chairman

Carole Raucheson
caroleal@verizon.net

Secretary

Linda Holden
lholden@aol.com

Field Trip Chairman

Jim White
whitejs1@verizon.net

Treasurer

Cheryl Reese
cheryl_59@comcast.net

Editor

Timothy Foard
bmorebugman@yahoo.com

Webmaster

Bob Davidson
Bob.Davidson2@Yahoo.com



**The Southern Maryland Rock and
Mineral Club**

**Meetings take place on the 4th
Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm**

**Clearwater Nature Center, 11000
Thrift Road, Clinton, MD.**

For More information, call:

(301) 297-4575

**We're on the web:
SMRMC.org**

To: Members of the EFMLS Executive Board,

Fr: Larry Heath

Subject: Resignation of Merrill Dickinson

As 1st Vice President, it is my duty to inform you that Merrill Dickinson has tendered his resignation as President of the Eastern Federation effective as of September 21, 2015.

As per our by-laws (Article XI, Section 2 & 3), as current 1st Vice President, I am assuming the position of President, Dave Korzendorfer, will assume the position of 1st Vice President and Barbara Ringhiser, 2nd Vice President elect will assume that position immediately.

As a result of Merrill resignation, he will no longer represent our Federation in any capacity nor will he be reimbursed for any future expenses as of today.

Larry Heath

The 24th Annual Richmond Gem & Mineral Society Rock Sale and Swap

Saturday, November 14, 2015 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 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, RGMA 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) or Bob Simon (dino_safaris@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.

Richmond Gem and Mineral Society (RGMS) 24th Annual Sale and Swap

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS EMAIL ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

NUMBER OF TABLES (\$20 EACH) _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS OUT TO -- RICHMOND GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY (RGMS)

MAIL REGISTRATION FORM WITH FEE TO -- ANDY DIETZ 12417 GLEN CARRIE ROAD ASHLAND, VA
23005

Friends of Mineralogy – Pennsylvania Chapter

<http://www.rasloto.com/FM/>

For Immediate Release

**SYMPOSIUM ON
RECENT ADVANCES IN MINERALOGY:
PENNSYLVANIA AND UNIVERSAL APPLICATIONS**

Mineral Collecting Enthusiasts Meet and Learn

November 7-8, 2015

Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, PA

Please Register in Advance

The Friends of Mineralogy – Pennsylvania Chapter will hold their 2015 Symposium and field trip on the first weekend in November. Mineral collectors in attendance on Saturday will meet in the Hackman Physical Sciences Building at Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, PA., to hear five talks by experts on minerals, geology and mining in Pennsylvania and beyond. On Sunday, a field trip for those registered for the symposium will provide an opportunity for mineral collecting.

The program planned for the symposium includes these presentations:

Michael Stefanic, PG: Phosphate Minerals in Pennsylvania

Bill Stephens, PG: Preliminary Evaluation of the Mount Pleasant Mills Wavellite Occurrence

Ron Sloto, PG: The Geology and Mineralogy of the Grace Mine

Ian Saginor, PhD: Volcanic Evolution of Central America

Stan Mertzman, PhD: Mineralogy of the Surface of Mars

All interested mineral collectors are invited to register and attend. As usual, select mineral dealers will be present, and there will be a silent auction, give-away table, refreshments, and plenty of opportunities for visiting with fellow enthusiasts. Lunch is available at restaurants within walking distance. Please see the web site <http://www.rasloto.com/FM/> for details, updates, and the registration form.

The mineral collecting field trip on Sunday is planned for a location where a variety of minerals may be available. Details will be given at the symposium. The trip is open only to symposium registrants. Safety equipment will be required.

Dates: Saturday & Sunday, November 7-8, 2015

Location: Saturday Nov. 7: Hackman Physical Sciences Bld., F&M College, Lancaster, PA

Sunday, Nov. 8: location to be announced

Registration: \$25 for non-members, \$15 for current FM-Pa members; free for students with student ID.

Please register in advance; a form is available on the web site.

Web Site: <http://www.rasloto.com/FM/>

Contact: Joe Marchesani

e-mail: Jmarch06@comcast.net

phone: 609-433-5129