

# Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club



## Rock Talk



### July-August, 2016

### Message from the Editor

I thank all those who send me articles, photos, reports, and notices for inclusion into the newsletter over the years. I appeal to those who haven't yet contribute an article or photo or share a personal collecting experience to do so, as Rock Talk belong to the entire club and not to just a handful. Really! I as well as other members would love to hear about your travels, your encounters, your tricks of the trade! And it doesn't have to be anything recent—what is important is that you contribute!

For the remainder of the year, my presence at the meetings will be limited. I am in the process of moving within the next couple of months (and again the following year), and my current job is also relocating. Both still local (regionally speaking), but this transition and added work responsibilities are making it challenging to make the meetings at this time. I will still continue to be your editor, if you wish, but until the dust settles from the moves, I will not be able to regularly attend the meetings and need your assistance even more than ever to contribute to the newsletter.

Tim Foard

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#### Next Meeting:

**August 23, 2016@6:00 PM**

#### Program:

Auction and Pot Luck Dinner

#### Refreshments:

All Members

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

**JUNE MINUTES**

Submitted by Linda Holden

**DATE:** The meeting was called to order on June 28, 2016 at 7:06 pm.

**MEMBERSHIP:** We have new members, Bill and Debbie Curtin.

**MINUTES:** Approved as written.

**TREASURER:** Dave reported that we did well at the Swap. We took in enough money to cover the deposit and the cost of the Pavilion. All members were paid back for the items they bought for the Swap. There were some other miscellaneous items purchased. We received a \$50.00 check from the Eastern Federation. Since we covered all our expenses, Dave suggested we return the money to them since it was not needed. Motion was made and passed. Dave read a letter regarding our donation to Eastern Federation Memorial Fund.

**NEWSLETTERS:** Tim sent out the "Rock Talk" this afternoon.

**WEBMASTER:** Bob sent out a "thank you" to all those who attended the Swap.

**FIELD TRIPS:** See the Rock Talk for recent field trip reports to Beaver Creek and Vulcan Manassas. One field trip is scheduled for this month to Contrary Creek on July 9th for gold, pyrite, garnets, etc. Dave sent around a sign-up sheet. Tina gave a brief report on the National Limestone Quarry field trip. Dave said there may be a field trip to Willis Mountain on September 23-25. Tina has a trip scheduled for Utah September 14-24. Let her know soon if you plan to go. They will be going to the usual sites as well as some new sites. She plans to spend a whole day at Rock Coral Canyon. Tina will send out the basic information. They hope to collect geodes, smoky quartz, obsidian, topaz, agate, azurite and gold.

**PROGRAMS:** Tonight's program was a video "The Nature of Earth : part 2 -The Origin of the Solar System. " Tim brought leftover drinks from the Swap.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Dave gave a report on the Swap. See the Rock Talk for details. We had approximately 50 people who attended the Swap. A motion was made and passed to accept the report. Everything was great.

**NEW BUSINESS:** It was suggested that the Swap be open to the public. Some would like a bigger location and more centrally located. We briefly talked about the pros and cons of having a bigger crowd. Tina suggested we look into using the Lion's Club location on Rt. 301. Betty has a commercial building in College Park that we could use for free for a Swap on a Sunday only. Paul volunteered to check into the Lion's Club, but asked for further direction as to what we want. Tom Humphrey is a member. Ralph will check out St. Ignatius Church near Rosecroft Raceway. Bob suggested Jug Bay. Harry suggested we go outside of Park and Planning. Most agreed. Members will gather information for planning our next event. We still want to get Gilbert Run again for just a Swap. We will look into both options, the Swap and a larger rock show open to the public. Betty also suggested the REI farmers market venue in College Park. A motion was made and passed to continue having the Swap next June. Dave volunteered to begin planning for the Swap. The commercial event would have to be in the summer or early fall. Information will be shared at the next meeting so we make a decision and begin planning in earnest.

**ADJOURNED:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm.

## July Minutes

Submitted by Linda Holden

**DATE:** Meeting was called to order on July 26, 2016 at 7:08 pm.

**MEMBERSHIP:** No report. No new members.

**MINUTES:** [The June and July minutes will be approved/corrected at the August business meeting once the joint June/July "Rock Talk" is received.]

**TREASURER:** We have a surplus from the Swap. EFMLS would not accept their \$50 check back from the Swap. They wanted us to keep it. We sincerely appreciate their support.

**PROGRAMS:** Carole reported that Erich Grundel is our guest speaker tonight. His presentation is "Postcards: Images and Messages About Minerals, Miners and Mines." He is from the Mineralogical Society of DC. Carole reminded us that the August meeting will start at 6:00 because of our annual potluck dinner and auction. We have had no donations. Any items being auctioned should include what it is, where it was found and a minimum bid, if there is one. Bob will send out reminder information. Gary will send a format form to Bob to make things go more smoothly. Bob or Ralph will collect the money. We need someone to do a program for September. Tim is doing the program for October. We always have videos if no one volunteers. Gary knows someone whomight be able to do a program on Fire and Ice/Alaska geology. Refreshments are provided tonight by Lorna and Mel in spite of Lorna's leg injury.

**NEWSLETTER:** Bob reminded all that Tim will be doing a joint newsletter for July/August.

**WEBMASTER:** Bob is up to date on the website.

**FIELD TRIPS:** Dave reported about the field trip to Contrary Creek. Several clubs joined us. 18 people

attended. Gold, garnets, and magnetite were just a few of the finds. Dave has written up a report for the Newsletter and the website. On August 6th Dave is planning a field trip to North Carolina with the Peninsula Club. He had a guide to different rock shows. He is also planning a tentative trip to WillisMountain on September 24th. There will be a fossil hunting field trip on the James River July 20th. There is a fee of \$5.00 that will go to the Boy Scouts. The National Limestone Quarry may be a future trip once it cools off, probably in early October. The Richmond Swap will be the 2nd Saturday in November. Tina is still planning a trip to Utah in September. Look for further details on these as well as other trips on the website and in future newsletters.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Paul forgot to look into the Lions Club as a location for our club show. He will attempt to get the information and send the information to Bob. We are going to do our own show, but we still need a venue. We will hold another EFMLS Picnic and Swap at Gilbert Run Recreational Park next year. We need to start planning now for our show in 2017. Dave suggested that we appoint a smallcommittee to start planning. A motion was made and passed. Carole, Gary and Cindy volunteered. Harry may be interested.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Gary and Cindy went to Alaska and brought back some sample rocks and items for us to look at. Gary said he would be willing to give a talkabout their trip in the future.

**ADJOURNED:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 pm.

## EFMLS/AFMS NEWS by Timothy Foard



The June newsletter of the AFMS has a tally of membership growth by region, with the Southeast and Rocky Mountain Federations showing the largest increase in membership. There is a schedule of upcoming regional AFMS conventions for this and the following year. There is also an update on the status of rockhounding in the new southern California national monument areas.

For these and other information, visit [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)



The EFMLS Newsletter for June has proposed bylaw changes, one of which is the inclusion of Paleontology as one of the interests in the objectives to include the number of clubs with fossils as a main interest. The newsletter also includes a listing of fall courses offered at Wildacres and a list of editors who served their club for at least ten years (The Decade Club). The Safety Matters column has common-sense practices for collecting in the field. For these and other information, visit [www.amfed.org/efmls](http://www.amfed.org/efmls)

### Upcoming Shows and Events: 2015

**September 3-4** –27<sup>th</sup> Annual Rockhounters gem and Mineral Show sponsored by the Kennebec Rocks and Minerals Club, National Guard Armory, Western Avenue, Augusta, ME

**September 10-11** --52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show sponsored by the Northern Berkshire Mineral Club. Fraternal Order of Eagles, Aerie #310, 515 Curran Hwy, Adams, MA

**September 24-25** –52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show hosted by the Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore. Howard County Fairgrounds, West Friendship, MD

**October 22-23** –Rochester Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, and Fossil Show and Sale and 66<sup>th</sup> Annual EFMLS Convention hosted by the Rochester Lapidary Society. Main Street Armory, 900 E Main St; Rochester, NY  
EFMLS Annual Meeting, Friday, October 21

## Rocks, Minerals, and Fossils in the News

### Why wet beach pebbles are prettier than dry ones

MARTY GILES For The World Updated Aug 17, 2016

[http://theworldlink.com/sports/outdoors/why-wet-beach-pebbles-are-prettier-than-dry-ones/article\\_1935c656-ffa6-52c1-b9da-4f93813b520e.html](http://theworldlink.com/sports/outdoors/why-wet-beach-pebbles-are-prettier-than-dry-ones/article_1935c656-ffa6-52c1-b9da-4f93813b520e.html)



Four Bandon beach stones with water painted on the right-hand sides of each. (From upper left: yellow jasper, red jasper, blueschist, red jasper, and a dark pebble with white quartzite veins)

Why are wet beach pebbles prettier than dry ones?

You know how it is: You pick up a brightly-colored pebble on a wet beach and put the damp rock in your pocket, but when you pull the pebble out of your pocket

when you get home, it's faded and dull-colored. Or you may have watched a sneaker wave rush high on a dry cobble beach, darkening the surf-worn rocks.

What's going on?

Beach rocks are worn down and smoothed off by rolling in the surf. As they clack and rub against each other and against grains of sand, tiny flecks are chipped off the surface. Ultimately, the chipping rounds off the shape; in the meantime, the chipping makes microscopic dents in the surface that eventually gives the rock a smooth, almost velvety texture. (When very hard beach rocks are polished, the superfine grit and water wear down the edges of the dents to make a much smoother surface.)

Of course, how something looks is a function of our perception of the light that strikes it and bounces towards our eye. According to <http://www.askamathematician.com/> (expanded to include a physicist), some light striking the surface of rock reflects off the surface immediately and some light penetrates the rock surface just the tiniest bit before leaving. The light that makes it inside bounces around between entering and leaving, heating the rock's surface, and refracting on the way out.

When we look at a beach rock, our eyes take in light from both those major paths. We see the color of the rock from the light that's bounced around just inside because the various minerals absorb and refract the sunlight variously, often "letting out" more of one wavelength.

White light that reflects off the surface of a dry beach pebble is scattered in many directions as it glances off the microscopic landscape of dents. This random scattering is what we notice most, making the dry pebble look hazy.

Adding water changes things considerably: the water fills in the chipped dents while forming a flat outer surface. Now the light bouncing off the (flat) surface of the water tends to reflect in one direction — which is why a wet rock looks shiny. With the surface-bouncing light going in one direction, we see more of the light carrying the color from just under the surface of the rock. Additionally, the skin of water helps light get through the surface of the rock, enhancing the color.

Polishing a rock makes it shiny and colorful because the smoother rock surface directs the surface-bouncing light — which interferes less with the bouncing-around-inside light. Only very hard rocks with tiny crystals polish well because softer or larger-

crystal rocks just keep chipping instead of holding their shape while the tiny dents are smoothed out.

Want to keep the pretty colors of a wet beach rock but don't have a rock polisher? Keep the rocks in a clear jar or a tray of water; if you don't want to replenish the water (or wash off the algae periodically), you can keep your pretty beach rocks in mineral oil.

Go ahead and put that rock in your pocket! You can restore its sea-side beauty.

## Teen polishes, catalogues 75-year-old collection at Danville library

[Karen Blackledge](#) Aug 1, 2016

[http://www.dailyitem.com/news/teen-polishes-catalogues--year-old-collection-at-danville-library/article\\_bc6aa6d8-57dd-11e6-b8e0-4f319c74079a.html](http://www.dailyitem.com/news/teen-polishes-catalogues--year-old-collection-at-danville-library/article_bc6aa6d8-57dd-11e6-b8e0-4f319c74079a.html)



Josh Marzak holds his favorite rock — a colorful kyanite crystal — in the Danville library where he is working on identifying numerous rocks and minerals.

DANVILLE, PA — Josh Marzak said a light switch went off when he started dusting off old rocks and minerals at the Thomas Beaver Free Library. “This is cool,” he said of the approximately 1,000 pieces amassed by founder Thomas Beaver on display at the library.

Josh, 17, was mildly interested in rocks while collecting them as a child. He became especially impressed with the pieces while wiping off 75 years of dust. “They were dark,” he said of the now gleaming specimens. This vast collection took years to collect,” he said of some of the rocks he cleaned and began identifying in 2013 for a Boy Scout service project.

“There are pieces from Scotland, France, Germany, Africa, Russia, Greece, Rome. There is a piece of paper that says there is a piece from the tomb of Lazarus. I have yet to locate it. It may be in the drawer we can't open,” he said. A locksmith will probably be needed to open the drawer. The collection ranges from tiny quartz to large attached shells. During his travels, Beaver brought back talc

from Russia, jade from China, a piece of the Parthenon and much more.

Josh is working part-time this summer on identifying more rocks and minerals with help. He is also preparing a catalogue the public will be able to use. He hopes to complete it by the end of the year. "This is the fun section," he said, opening one of the large glass cabinets. There's a piece of Caesar's Palace, chloride of soda from England, part of the Taj Mahal and a "classic eye" carving from the Tombs of the Kings. In a bottom drawer, he has discovered fragments of pottery and mosaics. From a little packet of dust, he found ashes from a volcano erupting on Aug. 24, 1883, during an earthquake at Java. "Karakatoa erupted that day and caused it to snow here in July and sent a shock wave so powerful it ruptured eardrums of sailors 10 miles away," he said.

From Beaver's labels, he is trying to match pictures of pieces with names, but often "it's not the same rock in front of you." He's had help from Brad Jordan, geology lab director at Bucknell University, and Bloomsburg University Professor John Tamblin. Tamblin provided him with some materials to test rocks to aid in their identification. Josh has also worked with Michael Shepard, of Bloomsburg University. Josh has reached out for assistance from Franklin and Marshall College and the Baltimore Mineral Society. Two of the rocks are radioactive, but not dangerous. Known as torbernite, one resembles a brown sponge and the other contains green flecks of torbernite. Josh has found magnetite which is magnetic, Jeffersonite, hematite and many more. His favorite is a green kyanite crystal containing calcite, gray quartz, orange goethite, blue azurite and green malachite.

He originally stated cataloguing the pieces with a photograph, a sentence or two about them and a number. Tamblin suggested he include more

information so Josh came up with a chart for the name, description, color, elements such as hardness or luster, where it was found and more about each piece. "There will be well over 190 pages for the first cabinet," he said. He has to update information for the second cabinet and hasn't included photos or text yet for the third cabinet. "It's all fun. I will probably work through the school year," said the Danville teen who will be a senior in the Pennsylvania Leadership Charter School. The collection contains garnets galore with most of them red, he said. There are fossils such as trilobites, ferns and shells. "With a black light, this would glow brilliant green," he said, showing willemite.

Library Director Ed Oberholtzer said the collection draws in visitors. "We have a number of specialists who have come to see the rocks. A number of people had no idea we had the collection and commented on how well kept it is," he said. He said Josh has done a "marvelous job in putting it together and maintaining it for us." Josh also created three Little Free Libraries in Danville for his Boy Scout Eagle Project. Another scout plans to add three more in the area. Josh has volunteered to help younger kids through the Pat Ackerman Reading Program at the library. He plans to attend Penn State. His top career choices, in order, are meteorology, astronomy and geology.

### **Paleontologists with the UW's Burke Museum discover major T. rex fossil**

[Andrea Godinez](#)

**Burke Museum**

<http://www.washington.edu/news/2016/08/18/paleontologists-with-the-burke-museum-uw-discover-major-t-rex-fossil/>



Paleontologists prepare to remove a *Tyrannosaurus rex* skull from a fossil dig site in northern Montana and transport it to the Burke Museum at the University of Washington. *Dave DeMar/Burke Museum*

Paleontologists with the University of Washington's Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture have discovered a *Tyrannosaurus rex*, including a very complete skull. The find, which paleontologists estimate to be about 20 percent of the animal, includes vertebrae, ribs, hips and lower jaw bones.

The team, led by UW biology professor and Burke Museum Adjunct Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology Greg Wilson, discovered the *T. rex* during an expedition to the Hell Creek Formation in northern Montana — an area that is world-famous for its fossil dinosaur sites. Two Burke Museum paleontology volunteers, Jason Love and Luke Tufts, initially discovered pieces of fossilized bone protruding from a rocky hillside. The bones' large size and honeycomb-like structure indicated they belonged to a carnivorous dinosaur. Upon further excavation, the team discovered the *T. rex* skull along with ribs, vertebrae, and parts of the jaw and pelvis.

*T. rex* was one of the largest meat-eating dinosaurs to ever roam the Earth. Measuring an average of 40-foot long and 15 to 20-foot tall, *T. rex* was a fierce predator with serrated teeth and large jaws. Fossil evidence shows it ate other dinosaurs like *Edmontosaurus* and *Triceratops*, with crushed bones from the animals even showing up in the its

fossilized poop. *T. rex* lived about 66–68 million years ago in forested river valleys in western North America during the late Cretaceous Period.



A *T. rex* tooth discovered by UW Burke Museum paleontologists in Montana. *Tom Wolken/Burke Museum*

The *T. rex* found by the UW/Burke team is nicknamed the “Tufts-Love Rex” in honor of the two volunteers who discovered it. The skull is about 4 feet long weighs about 2,500 pounds in its protective plaster jacket. Excavation in the field revealed the right side of the skull from base to snout, including teeth. Burke paleontologists believe it is very probable the other side of the skull is present, but will need to carefully remove the rock surrounding the fossil before they can determine its completeness.

“We think the Tufts-Love Rex is going to be an iconic specimen for the Burke Museum and the state of Washington and will be a must-see for dinosaur researchers as well,” said Wilson.

Based on the size of its skull, Burke paleontologists estimate this dinosaur is about 85 percent the size of the largest *T. rex* found to date. At the hips, the *T. rex* would have been nearly as tall as a city bus, and as long as a bus from tail to head.



The Tufts-Love Rex is 66.3 million years old. *T. rex* lived at the end of the Cretaceous Period, 145–66 million years ago, and became extinct during the Cretaceous-Paleogene mass extinction 66 million years ago. Burke paleontologists could determine that the Tufts-Love Rex lived at the very end of the Cretaceous because it was found at the bottom of a hill; a rock layer at the top of that hill marks the Cretaceous-Paleogene mass extinction. Based on the size of the skull — a good indicator of *T. rex* age — the team estimates the dinosaur was about 15 years old when it died. Adult *T. rex* lived up to 25-30 years. Although arguably the most iconic and well-known dinosaur, *T. rex* fossils are rare. This remarkable find is one of only about 25 of this level of completeness. The skull is the 15<sup>th</sup> reasonably complete *T. rex* skull known to exist in the world. Next summer, Burke paleontologists will search for additional parts of the dinosaur at the site.



UW Burke Museum paleontologists and crew members from Skanska carefully move the 3,500-pound *T. rex* skull using a forklift. *Burke Museum/University of Washington*

More than 45 people helped excavate the *T. rex* over the course of a month this summer. The team was collecting fossils in the area for the Hell Creek Project, a multi-disciplinary project examining vertebrates, invertebrates, plants and geology of the area to learn more about the final 2 million years of the dinosaur era, the mass-extinction event that killed off the dinosaurs, and the first 1.5 million years post-extinction that gave rise to the age of mammals. The project, currently led by Wilson, was founded

by Jack Horner and Nathan Myhrvold. Burke paleontologists, volunteers, undergraduate and graduate students from the UW and other universities and K–12 educators participating in the Burke’s DIG Field School contribute to the project.

“This is really great news. The Hell Creek Project is responsible for finding the most *T. rex* specimens in the world, with 11 to date,” said Myhrvold, Intellectual Ventures CEO and Paleontologist. “The *T. rex* has always been my favorite dinosaur and I’m really pleased that this one is going to make its home at the Burke Museum.”

“Having seen the ‘Tufts-Love Rex’ during its excavation I can attest to the fact that it is definitely one of the most significant specimens yet found, and because of its size, is sure to yield important information about the growth and possible eating habits of these magnificent animals,” said Horner, former curator of paleontology at the Museum of the Rockies and current Burke Museum research associate.

The *T. rex* skull and other bones are currently covered in a plaster jacket — similar to a cast used to cover a broken bone — in order to protect the skull during transport. The public can see the plaster-covered *T. rex* skull, along with other *T. rex* fossils and paleontology field tools, in a lobby display at the UW’s Burke Museum from August 20 to October 2. Special *T. rex*-themed activities will take place over Labor Day Weekend and on Sunday, September 25.

After removing the fossil from display, the Burke’s paleontology team will begin preparing the fossil by removing the rock surrounding the bone, which may take a year or more. The museum plans to display the *T. rex* skull in the New Burke Museum when it opens in 2019.

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For more information, contact Andrea Godinez at 206-616-7538 or [burkepr@uw.edu](mailto:burkepr@uw.edu).



### Member's Finds

Bottom photo is of a fossil I found in a streambed in the College Park (MD) area several years ago. Uncertain as to the identity, I recently made a thin section of the fossil on a 2" x 3" slide, placed the slide on a miniature light box, and enlarge the image 4x using the camera on my phone, as my microscopes and cameras were packed away for the move. The side photos show two views of the internal structures. This fossil appears to be a fragment of a tree fern.



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

**OFFICIAL COMBINED MINERAL COLLECTING FIELD TRIP**

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

AND

THE ROANOKE VALLEY MINERAL AND GEM SOCIETY INC. (HOST)

**An official Field trip of the Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club**

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

**WILLIS MOUNTAIN KYANITE MINE**

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

Saturday, September 24, 2016

9:00AM 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 as space may be limited due to the expanded list of clubs now participating in this annual event.

There is a limit of 150 collectors from all clubs for this event so there should be room for everyone.

**SAFETY:** Everyone must arrive at the office parking lot no later than 8:30AM to sign the release form and hear the required safety briefing. Each Club field trip leader, or their appointed replacement, will act as safety observer while in the mine and will be expected to be on the lookout for and correct all safety infractions from any collector from any club. Keep in mind that this site is one of the few that is still open for collecting. Not obeying all the safety rules will cause this site to be closed to all future collecting.

**DRIVING DIRECTIONS FROM THE SOUTHERN MARYLAND AREA:** Physical address (approx.) for MapQuest directions: 10830 James Madison Hwy., Dillwyn, VA. From La Plata, it is 152 miles – allow at least 3 hours. Follow US Rt 301 south toward Richmond to I-295 west to I-64 west to VA 288 south to US Rt 60 west. Continue on US 60 west to Sprouses Corner. Turn left on US 15 South and drive 4 miles to Willis Mt. Plant Road. Turn left and stop at the stone building mine office. Park out of the way as not to block traffic. Do not park along Rt. 15. Allow 3 hours (minimum) driving time from La Plata to the mine office.

**ASSEMBLY TIME:** Everyone will meet at the mine office for sign-in and safety instruction so be there no later than 8:30am. Wait in the parking lot and do not block traffic. Many trucks may be using the road. While you're waiting, be sure to enjoy the beautiful blue kyanite bolder in the front yard from the old closed Baker Mountain mine.

**COLLECTING:** Willis Mountain is 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 has a beautiful light blue fluorescence and the apatite is yellow so bring your short wave lamp and blackout cloth.

**EQUIPMENT:** The standard quarry safety gear required is a hard hats with a mfg. date of 5 years or less, safety glasses, 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 MSHA (Federal Mine Safety and Health Act) APPROVED REINFORCED FIBERGLASS TOED BOOTS WILL BE ALLOWED, THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS!!!** . If you do not have all the required safety equipment, you will not be allowed to enter the quarry. Also required are safety glasses, long pants, gloves,

hammer and chisels, wrapping paper, buckets, and water. 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 at 1PM 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 our So Md club requires a minimum age of 8 years old. 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.

**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:** Dave Lines, Field Trip leader for the Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club, [dave.lines@earthlink.net](mailto:dave.lines@earthlink.net) , cell (240) 427-7062

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# The 25th Annual Richmond Gem & Mineral Society Rock Sale and Swap

## Saturday, November 12, 2016

### 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](mailto:dietziv@yahoo.com)) or  
Bob Simon ([dino\\_safaris@yahoo.com](mailto: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**

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**ADDRESS**

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**EMAIL ADDRESS**

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**TELEPHONE NUMBER**

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**NUMBER OF TABLES (\$20 EACH)**

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**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**

**SMRMC OFFICERS****PRESIDENT**

(position open)

Bob Davidson acting President

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[Bob.Davidson2@Yahoo.com](mailto:Bob.Davidson2@Yahoo.com)**The Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club****Meetings take place on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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**