

Vulcan Quarry- Manassas  
by: Tina League



On Saturday, November 19, 2011 Harry led a joint club field trip to Vulcan Quarry, Manassas. There were a total of 21 rockhounds present from five different clubs: SMRMC, Lynchburg, Shendoah Valley, Roanoke and Northern VA Club. The SMRMC members present were: Harry, Tina, Lorna, Al, Cheryl, Ron and Jim.



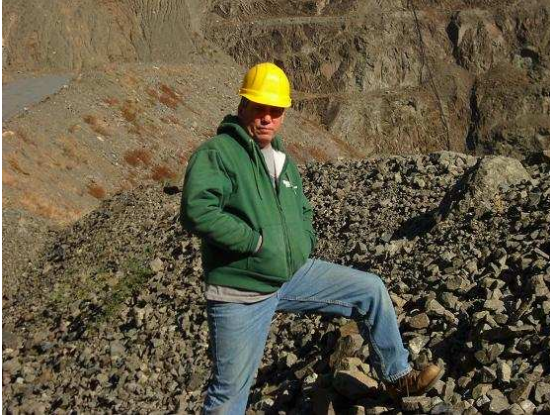
Everyone met in the parking lot at 7:30 a.m. and were greeted by the quarry representative KT who passed around the sign up sheet and gave a brief safety speech.



KT then led the group in their caravan of automobiles around the back side of the quarry to a top bench where the NVA club had found Stilbite in previous trips this year.

The weather was brisk on arrival, but as soon as everyone spread out and began searching for specimens, the sun warmed up the day to a comfortable 50 degrees. There were plenty of Stilbite and Calcite crystals to be found on this level.





Smaller finds of Prehnite were also discovered along with a variety of micros. John and Steve from the Roanoke club walked away with several nice thumbnail specimens, many of them fluorescent. At noon we headed out of the quarry and thanked KT for the opportunity to collect at Vulcan Quarry.

Steve Lenhart (Roanoke club) is the Director of the Radford University Museum of Earth Sciences and is on a quest to acquire museum-quality specimens of rocks and minerals from Virginia for the museum. Check out the museum's website at [www.radford.edu/mes](http://www.radford.edu/mes) and plan to visit when you're in the Radford area. Although relatively new and small, it has been recognized as an affiliate of the Virginia Museum of Natural History. Donations of specimens to grow the museum's collection would be gratefully accepted and donated specimens used in displays always include the name of the donor.