

Vulcan Quarry - Warrenton - August 11, 2018
by Joe Davis



Eight members from the SMRMC joined members from the Montgomery County Club on a field trip to a Vulcan Quarry in Warrenton Virginia. None of the members from either club had ever rock hounded at this quarry so we didn't know what to expect. We encountered some heavy rain on the way there and a quick check of the latest weather forecast was for continued rain. We stopped at a local Walmart and purchased some cheap insurance in the form of disposable ponchos, stopping the rain for the rest of the day.



Arriving at the quarry I quickly noticed two things. Every pile contained the same color of brown gray rock. The only difference was the size of the material. The other thing that I noticed was how neat everything appeared. The flowerbeds at the gate were full of colorful offerings. Inside was no different. The flowers by the office were all in

bloom and the shrubs were all neatly shaped and trimmed. All of the outbuildings were painted the same color as the office.



The brown gray rock turned out to be a type of basalt. It contained a few thin ribbons of white that turned out to be calcite. Some small calcite crystals were found and some members found some micros. The rain held back and the cloud cover kept the heat down. There just wasn't much to be found.



On the way home we stopped at the Gold Mining Camp Museum at Monroe Park in Goldvein, VA. The museum is the only museum in Virginia dedicated solely to gold and gold mining. and is located on route 17 in Goldvein. The museum is set up like the gold camps were during the 1930's. There is an assays office, a chow hall, and bunk house all fill with items from the period. It was a nice way to break up the trip home.

