



THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA MINERAL CLUB INC



Crystals are the flowers of the Mineral Kingdom



THE MINERAL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 50 No. 5

MAY 2009

Meeting May 18th!

Find information also on our Club Website:
<http://www.mineralclub.org>

EARLY MEETING DATE!!

Please note our MAY meeting will occur on the 18th at 7:45pm at the Long Branch Nature Center in Arlington.

Normally we have our meetings on the fourth Monday of the month, but sometimes this directly conflicts with a major holiday. Of course in May the conflict is Memorial Day. So, we will have our May meeting one week early this year, on the 18th.

Please join us for our May program when we will hear from our very own

Wayne Sukow about the Tiny Bubble Theory of Lake Superior Agates. Wayne has been a long-time enthusiast of Lake Superior Agates, so this should be an interesting, educational presentation.

Next month, our meeting will return to its normal 4th Monday time slot, on the 22nd of June.

Don't forget that there are no meetings during the months of July and August.

NVMC Schedule:

18 May NVMC meeting at Long Branch Nature Center

30 May Field trip to Morefield Mine

06 June Field Trip collecting Road-Side Fossils

20 June Field Trip to Lucky Lake Gem Mine

22 June NVMC meeting at Long Branch Nature Center

Note that there will be no NVMC meetings in July and August!

May and June Field Trips

There are three (count 'em, THREE) field trips coming in the next month and a half. At the end of May will be a field trip to the Morefield Gem Mine. Please refer to pages 6-7 of this newsletter for the details, but this is a unique opportunity that allows our members to get access to parts of the mine that the general public is not permitted access to. Note that this mine is up for sale and may be shut down soon, so this opportunity may not be around in years to come.

On June 6th Ted Carver will be leading a trip that will consist of visiting some road side locations that are good for fossil collecting. Please refer to page 9 for more information.

On June 20th there will be a visit to another gem mine, the Lucky Lake mine located west of Petersburg, VA. Please see page 8 for details of this field trip.

For many of our members, the reason

for being a member of the club is to be able to attend field trips. It is one of the fantastic opportunities that club membership offers members.

But it can't all get done by one person alone. Please, when you can, offer to help Ted with the field trips, or offer to organize one yourself.

Also, don't forget to try to show up on time. If you show up late, please do not just drive into a pit and start digging. There is a liability waiver that must be signed by all members prior to entering the pits.

STEEL TOES: If you do not have steel toed boots, you MUST at least wear heavy work boots. If you do not have steel toes, that's OK, but it means no heavy lifting (nothing heavier than can be carried by one hand), no swinging of hammers that weigh more than 3#, and no climbing rock piles that exceed knee height.

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April Meeting Minutes

Recorded by Kathy Hrechka, Secretary

April 27, 2009 Minutes NVMC

President pro-tem, Wayne Sukow called the meeting to order at 7:55 p.m.

Guests included Daniel and Mary, and new member Casper Vooght.

The minutes of the March 23 meeting were approved and seconded.

Treasurer, Rick Reiber stated that the March club auction proceeds were \$155.00.

He reminded members that dues were due, and he would collect monies at break.

Field Trips – May 17 Rockville, MD. Mt. Pleasant, PA would be coming up too.

Announcements: George Reimherr recited a poem of Pluto.

Old Business: none

New Business: A club member gave a nice review of Wildacres. Sukow suggested that we have a table for Show & Tell at each meeting.

Door Prizes by Cheryl Simms were won by Ned Slagle & Dave McLean.

Program: MARS by Dr. John Grant, Geologist and Chairman of the Center for Earth and Planetary Studies at the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum.

Break for refreshments after the program. Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

May Meeting Agenda

INFORMATIONAL AGENDA:

There will be no June Executive Board Meeting

Status of 2009 NVMC Corporation Registration?

2008 IRS Forms...where are we??

2009 NVMC show coordinator... where are we??

Committee chairs are needed ...Volunteer Now

Announcements: Be prepared to have brochures etc. if possible or make a one-minute presentation and give the audience an email address or phone number for further information.

ACTION AGENDA:

Call to order at 7:45 pm.

Recognize Guests

Approval of April meeting minutes.

Field Trips...John "Ted" Carver.

Old business... Identify action item and have motion prepared.

New business... Identify action item and have motion prepared.

Other items....

Adjourn meeting.

10-minute Refreshment break

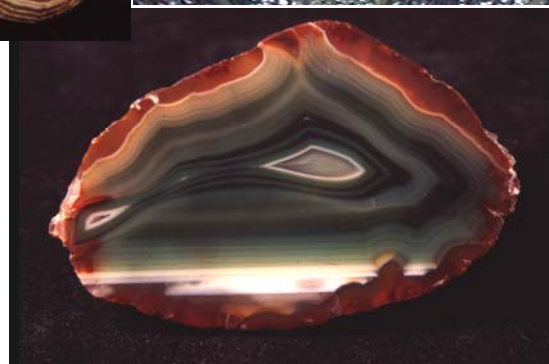
May Program...The Tiny bubble Theory of Lake Superior Agates...

End Program and Depart for Home by 9:50

The Prez Says

MAY FLOWERS

As I read mineral club newsletters from across the nation, that's one of the benefits of having served as EFMLS President; you continue to get many newsletters, I keep seeing a monotonous theme. It's very difficult to get club members to take advantage of an opportunity to hone and practice their leadership skills; club offices are left vacant, committee offices are left vacant, show volunteers are reluctant to sign-up to help, junior membership is down...and yet...we have SRO at our auction meeting. I keep reading to find a witty saying that is appropriate such as, "What happens if there are no April Showers? May be there will be no May flowers!!!



The Prez

Board Positions Open

Currently our Club President, Wayne Sukow is acting President as the club currently does not have a Vice President and Wayne is seeking a replacement to assume the role of President. Our club Vice President officiates the meetings in the absence of the President, and is typically responsible for planning the program presentation at the meetings (8 meetings per year, since there are no meetings in July and August and March and November are reserved for club Auctions). The club President organizes the meeting of the Board of Directors and manages the agenda for each club meeting.

These are important positions within the club. Please consider serving the club in one of these positions if you have time.

To volunteer for one of these positions, please contact the newsletter editor, Robert Winsor.

Your Article Here!

The Mineral Newsletter is a publication by the members and for the members. In general, the newsletter is enjoyed the most when our club members contribute articles. If you are thinking about writing an article, think no more! Just write! Did you take an interesting trip to a museum and learn something new? Did you attend a seminar? Did you take a cool field trip or visit a fun mineral sale? Why not write up a paragraph or two about it and send it to the Editor for publication?

Don't hesitate to write, and stop worrying about whether other club members will like your article! They will!

Recently we have had some great articles written by members like Sheryl Sims, Sara Brenner, and George Reimherr to name a few. Won't you join them this year?

-The Editor

Rock, Stock, & “Berylling” In Over My Head...

By Sheryl Sims

When I joined the NVMC I decided that it was time that I try to learn the names of some of the rocks and minerals that I was coming across. It was like learning a foreign language, and unfortunately, something at which I was never very good. After purchasing some jewelry, I learned about tanzanite. It was named after Tanzania. When I look at my jewelry, it's easy to remember its association with the color blue, but not that it is “a hydrated calcium aluminum silicate mineral, exhibiting blue, violet, or greenish color depending on the polarization of incident light.”

In the end, I know that it will do me good to have the names of a few rocks in my head, so to speak, if not under my belt, as I continue learning what I've begun to love. Unlike some members of our club, who are not only able to identify various rocks/minerals, but can place them in the proper geological timeframe such as: (formation for modern continents/diversification of animals and plants), Mesozoic (development of flowering plants and appearance/extinction of dinosaurs), Paleozoic (marine invertebrates, primitive fishers/reptiles/land plants), and Precambrian (primitive forms of life) eras. These periods in our planet's development will continue to be a mystery to me. It is also safe to say that I'll never be able to determine from which of the following periods any of my accidental finds derived:

Quaternary (the period in which humans appeared on the scene);

Tertiary (the period where modern flora, apes, and other large mammals appeared);

Cretaceous (appearance of flowering plants and the disappearance of dinosaurs and other forms of life);

Jurassic (the presence of dinosaurs and the earliest species of birds);

Triassic (appearance of earliest mammals and land life);

Permian (rise of conifers and diversification of reptiles);

Carboniferous (swamp formation and deposition of plant remains later hardened into coal);

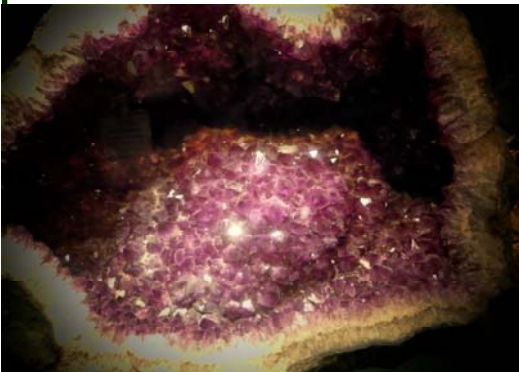
Devonian (appearance of forests and amphibians);

Silurian (land plants and invertebrate land animals);

Ordovician (appearance of primitive fishes); or *Cambrian* (warm seas, desert land areas, and the rise of almost all modern animals/plants).

Nor, will I have any idea which epoch period any particular specimen was found: Holocene (recent), Pleistocene (glacial), Pliocene (modern animals), Miocene (grasses/grazing animals), Oligocene (mammals/carnivores), Eocene (mammals), or Paleocene (placental mammals). Instead, I will merely assume that the rocks and minerals that I find were formed thousands, if not millions, of years ago; and, that a *Higher Power* placed it in my path so that I, yes, even I, couldn't miss it. I plan to keep searching for pretty mineral specimens in hues of yellow, pink, and blue. One day I'll know their proper names! Until then, however, I will forever be fascinated by the beauty of such places as the Crystal Cave, Luray Caverns, unnamed salt deposits I find lying along the road; and, oh, so much more!

Source: Webster's II – New College Dictionary, Third Edition, Houghton Mifflin



MYSTERIOUS MINERAL: NVMC Members Peppered with Questions

By Sheryl Sims

My daughter, Amber, and I, were taking in the sights one warm, spring, day in Accokeek, Maryland. We came to a screeching halt in front of a road leading to an unfinished subdivision. Looking up, the sign on the street corner read: "Amber Road". "Let's stop and take a picture of you near that sign!" I suggested to Amber. Not so surprisingly, my enthusiasm must have pushed her over the edge. She rolled her eyes as any teenager would and replied, "Oh, Mom, do I *have* to?" "Yes!" I responded, "Now, hurry up and get out of the car!"

After her eyes rolled around in their sockets a few more times she exited the car with a sigh. Tiring of my directions to pose first one way and then another, Amber kicked at the rocks around her feet. I, too, took a moment to look down at the pebbles around my feet. Seizing the opportunity to look for new samples, I spotted something interesting. *Eureka!* It was a mass of tiny crystals! I wondered what they were and scooped them up. The last time I spotted something interesting, it turned out to be a broken-off piece of polished marble that had fallen from a dump truck. Amber's still laughing about that find! "What? Do you mean that marble doesn't come from the earth naturally polished?" I asked her facetiously. This was different, however, and I was anxious to bring it to our next mineral club meeting to find out what it was. Unfortunately, I ended up missing that meeting and decided to browse through my mineral books to see if I could figure out what I had found.

Was it Adularia? No, according to my book that was usually found in Switzerland. Could it be rock crystal

with pyrite? No, we weren't in Yugoslavia. Perhaps it was some sort of gypsum crystal; but, probably not since we were no where near Spain. Maybe it was tiny little pieces of cryolite, more commonly known as "ice stone". At least they were found in the United States! In addition, the rounded crystals did look like little diamonds or ice stones.



As the weeks passed, I showed it to family members who thought that it looked more like bar of "rice crispies" or a "hunk of sand". Well! I thought, "they have certainly never attended a geology class or NVMC meeting!" Still, unsure, I flipped through more mineral books. Finally, I simply decided to wait until our April meeting. Once there, I went around the room to various esteemed club members asking, "What do you think this is?" "Hmmm" one member remarked, "could be some sort of quartz!" Another member said, "That's very interesting, but you need to look at it under a microscope!" Still another member said the same thing as a member before him had guessed. He squinted and peered into the mass. He pulled out his loupe and said "Hold this and look."

"Notice that it's been 'etched' and look at the lacy texture of the base. Water washed over this. Then, it was probably exposed to some sun, where evaporation took place; but not totally. It left this textured layer."

"Ooooh!" I said knowingly, but not *really* knowing what that meant. Then, quick as a wink, he did something very "scientific".

He *tasted* it! Smiling, he asked, "Do you know what this is?" "What?" I couldn't believe it! My mystery mineral was about to be identified! It was—"SALT!"



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30 MAY Field Trip Morefield Mine

NoVaMiCI Members! We are invited (as a club) to attend what I'm sure will be an excellent trip.

This mine is open only rarely and is **VERY** rich.

The invite comes from Dave Calhoun of the Lynchburg and Roanoke clubs. Be sure to thank him. See the details below:

OFFICIAL COMBINED MINERAL COLLECTING FIELD TRIP

The Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg Inc.---The Roanoke Valley Mineral and Gem Society Inc.

Saturday, May 30, 2009 10:00 AM until 4:30 PM

MOREFIELD MINE (FEE SITE)

<http://www.toteshows.com/morefield.html>

Mine Phone 1-804-561-3399

THE MINE IS FOR SALE AND WILL BE CLOSED DURING THE SUMMER

CHECK WEB SITE FOR DETAILS AND HOURS AND DAYS OF OPERATION

(THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT THIS FAMOUS MINE)

SIGN-UP REQUIRED. Please see me at the meeting, call or e-mail me to get on the list.

TRIP: We will be visiting the famous 70 plus year old Morefield Mine in Amelia, Virginia. We will dig and collect in the old dumps, collect from newly mined material, wash our finds in the sluice line and have the rare opportunity to tour the underground mine workings. There will be picnic tables available on a first come basis. Each club should bring food and drink if we want to have a picnic lunch. We must bring our own lawn chairs and a grill. The closest fast food is McDonalds, several miles back in Amelia. There will be several other clubs attending. It will not be open to the general public.

COLLECTING: In addition to the beautiful green ama-

zonite, there will be white clevelandite, several types of mica, massive white topaz, garnet, beryl and others. This mine is noted for many micro minerals that most people just discard. A gold pan is a great way to separate the heavier rare minerals. Take the concentrate home in a container, dry and observe under magnification.

FEES: General admission to collecting area --- adult and senior --- \$12.00 each,----- Children 3 and under free.

Children --- Age 4 thru grade 2 (\$7.00), Grade 3 thru 6 (\$8.00), Grade 7 thru 12 (\$10.00)

Underground --- \$20.00 each (see restrictions and limitations below)

Combination Price --- \$30.00 collecting area and underground tour.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: Restrictions on digging in the dump. No picks or malls, no breaking rocks due to the danger of injuring those nearby. Wear sturdy footwear in the mine area. Flip-flops or sandals are not allowed. There is a one five-gallon bucket limit with each paid admission. Be sure to bring your own bucket. Additional bucket loads may be purchased for a reasonable fee. You will find a shovel, small short-handled hoe and a screwdriver handy tools for digging. Zip lock bags are handy for your small finds.

Restrictions on the underground mine tour. Must go as a group of 9 or fewer. Sign up when you pay your admission. The first group tour is about 1:00 PM. The second group will be after 3:30 PM, if needed. The tour will take between 1.5 to 2 hours. Everyone will have Hazard Training instruction and sign a release. You must wear the mine-supplied M-65 Self-Rescuer which fits a narrow-width belt. Be sure to bring your own belt. A hard hat is required, so be sure to bring your own. You must wear good strong boots with good soles for traction. Athletic or tennis shoes are not permitted. You must bring your own personal light source. You may also want to bring a camera or camcorder. They must be carried on your body or in a small shoulder bag. Both hands must be free for climbing the ladders. The trip into the mine requires climbing ladders. The main level is 45 feet below the surface and the other levels are at 32 feet and 60 feet. **It is a requirement that visitors be able and healthy enough to climb into and out of the mine under their own power.** There are platforms about every 12 feet where one can rest, but remember that physical exertion is required. The vertical ladders are tight and large people and backpacks may not fit. The final decision on who will be permitted to enter the mine is up to the mine owner. Children are not permitted to enter the mine, only older teenagers when accompanied by a parent. Dress according to the surface temperature. There

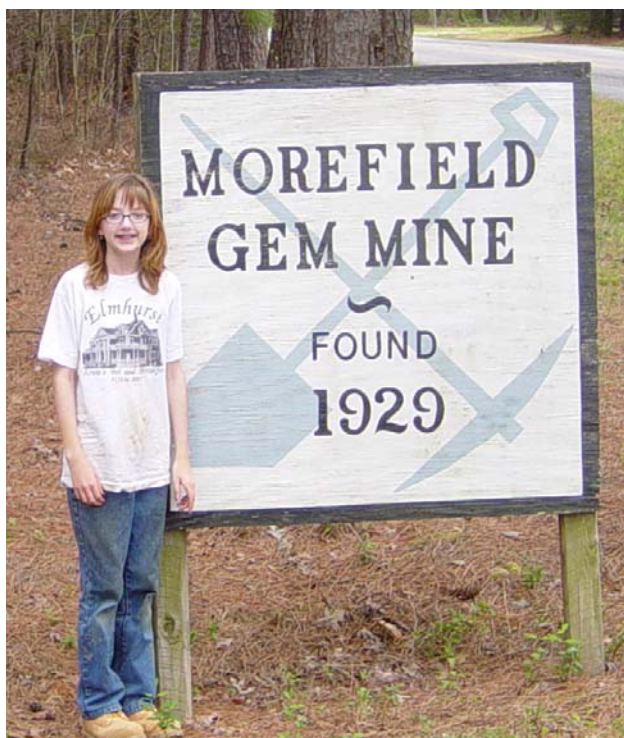
30 MAY Field Trip Morefield Mine (cont')

will be some dripping water, especially on the 60-foot level, so a light rain jacket may be useful. There may also be some wet floors. **No mineral collecting will be permitted underground.**

DIRECTIONS: Meet at the mine at 10:00 AM. The mine is located in Amelia County, VA. and is 90 miles from Lynchburg. From US 360 just East of the McDonalds traffic light in Amelia, turn right on Rt. 628 (look for the brown State Morefield Mine sign). The mine entrance will be about 9/10 of a mile on the left. Follow the driveway all the way to the parking area, office and gift shop.

If you want to drive as a group, we will meet at the **Jumbo Restaurant** on US 460 East just past the Lynchburg City limits in Campbell County. We will DEPART there at 8:15 AM, drive 460 thru Farmville and take Rt. 307 to US 360 and stop at the McDonalds in Amelia for a short break. The mine is only a couple of miles from there.

CONTACT: Ted Carver, Home, 703-754-2050 Cell, 571-344-4958 or, preferably, email (jtcarverock@hotmail.com)



The Bargers Dig Field Trip Report

By Casper Voogt

I found some nice stuff at Bargers, with a few clear calcite crystals of about 2 inches in diameter. There was a boulder with those on it, and some 7 people worked it that day - 2 before me, and 4 after me. I was lucky because those before me did a lot of chiseling and I finished the job. I had managed to excise maybe 1/10 of the crystals that were there, and those after me went to work with a sledgehammer and broke the boulder apart expertly, achieving in 15 minutes what took me a good hour! My other nice find was a 6x3 inch plate of 1/4 inch quartz crystals (nicely faceted). Again, others had worked that spot, but they graciously handed it over to me, and I finished the job. I also found some pyrite, though only massive, and it may actually be chalcopyrite. Another of my finds featured calcite crystals sprinkled on top of calcite crystals in a vug. The fluorite proved elusive for me, but I know others found some. I think and hope everyone came away pleased.

Field Trip Report - National Limestone Quarry

By Robert Winsor

There was a healthy showing for this field trip. This time the trip started at the part of the quarry near Middleburg, PA, about 8 miles from the Mt. Pleasant Mills site. This site had some very interesting calcite formations, but my interest resided within the wavellite at the other location, so my daughter Brooke and I quickly went there. The path to get to the wavellite had changed a bit, making it hard to recognize at first, but we finally found a good spot where the mineral was plentiful. The only drawback is the long hike to get the stuff out, which leads to being highly selective on what is carried out! Several members came out with some very nice samples.

After a couple hours of wavellite prospecting, we headed down to the main pit. There was no fresh blast material, but decent sized (>1cm) dogtooth calcite was found by several members.

This was another fun visit to the National Quarry!

Lucky Lake Field Trip 20 June

Official Northern Virginia Mineral Club Collecting Trip Announcement

To Lucky Lake Gem and Mineral Mine, McKenney, VA (Fee Site)

Saturday, June 20, 2009 - 10 am to 1 pm

Open to All (NVMC Members and Friends)

Limited to a Maximum of 20 Collectors, First Come, First Served

Announcing a special collecting trip to Lucky Lake, McKenney, VA. Special because this is a relatively new site which has been little explored (comparatively, it has only been open about 2 years) and also because it's limited to 20 collectors. It costs \$25 per collector, however, if we have fewer than 15 show up the price per digger goes up. So if you sign up, you must show up or expect a visit from the Club accountants, Messrs Guido and Bruno, they are very persuasive.

We'll be starting at the mine at 9:45 am and go into the mine at 10. We get to spend 3 hours in the mine. Bring all of our own tools (hammers, chisels, screens, picks, shovels, buckets, CAT 950 front end loaders*, etc), wear your helmet, steel toed boots, wear gloves & protective glasses, bring lots of water to drink and something to eat. It is a clay pit and it tends to get muy caliente down there, so sunscreen and appropriate clothing for getting hot, dirty, sweaty and reasonably happy under the circumstances.

Also, all members will need to sign a release form and when digging be spaced far enough apart so not to hurt anyone when swinging a hammer or a cat (mine rules). After the 3 hours everyone is welcome to go to

the flume and wash off their treasures to see what they found.

What may be found at this site: citrine, garnet, aquamarine, smoky quartz, tourmaline, unakite, and sunstone. There are a number of different feldspars and micas as well. It's rumored that there are a number of sands (particularly the quartz variety), a number of quartzite, cordierite, and schist.

This find comes courtesy of NoVaMiCl Member Rebecca Winkler, so we should all say "Girl, Howdy! Muchas Gracias!" OK?, on three, one - two -

Directions:

From I-95 S in Petersburg, VA. Take the ramp onto I-85 S. Take exit 42 toward McKenney. Merge onto Doyle Blvd/McKenney Hwy/VA-40. Continue to follow VA-40. Turn left at Lennie Rd. Turn right at Harpers Rd. The Mine will be on the right. Contact Ted Carver at 703.754.2050 (h), 571.344.4958 (c) or, preferably, email atjcarverock@msn.com

Map to the Mine from their website



In the interest of lower environmental impact, let's try to carpool where practicable. Those of you with space for additional collectors, their booty and, not least, their gas money, let me know and I'll try to match you up with those members who more closely resemble cargo. And those of you who would prefer to be freight, let me know, too.

Additionally, if this site pans out and we get the full 20 then we'll try to schedule another trip for those who didn't get a chance the first time. So, fret not if you can't get in on this one.

*If you do bring a bulldozer, you will not be allowed to use it and you have no sense of humor.

Road-Side Fossils Field Trip

Official Northern Virginia Mineral Club Collecting Trip Announcement

To Roadside Fossils in Nearby West Virginia

Saturday, June 6, 2009 - 8 am until we get tired of it

Open to All (NVMC Members and Friends)

Limited to a Maximum of 6 Carloads of Collectors, First Come, First Served

Announcing a fossil collecting trip to several roadside sites (as many as 6) in nearby West Virginia (and western Virginia as well). Some of the sites are well known, some less so, some are brand spankin' new. In the case of the Route 55 road cuts, they haven't been much explored at all. Because of limited parking at some sites we'll need to limit the number of vehicles to 6, still, that's around 30 members and friends. This will be our first attempt at an all carpooling trip so, remember to wear antiperspirant.

We'll be starting at the Gainesville, VA Target Parking lot at 8:00 AM (yes, there is a Starbucks). We'll take some time to sort out the necessary vehicle/driver/freight/gas money then travel to site number one. We will spend 1 to 2 hours at each site and then move on as a group, a mighty convoy of the geologically transfixed. Bring all of our own tools (hammers, chisels, shovels, buckets, large soup spoons*, etc), and wear your helmet, steel toed boots, gloves & protective glasses, bring lots of water to drink and consider packing lunch. These will be road cuts so the greatest care must be taken to avoid unnecessary squishing and wear clothing in bright colors and remember where you are and where the road is.

Also, all members will need to sign up and when digging be spaced far enough apart so as not to bash each other into

The Board of Directors

Do you have a question for one of our Board members? To the right you can find email addresses and phone numbers for club officers (Note imminent changes for Prez and Vice Prez!).

Also, if you would like to attend a meeting of the Board of Directors, please contact Wayne Sukow and let him know ahead of time. All club members are welcome at Board meetings!

Board Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 7:30pm at Wayne's home in Fairfax. Please contact Wayne for directions.

premature fossilization.

What may be found at these sites: Tube Worms, Snails, Brachiopods of many descriptions and indeed there is a chance at a trilobite or two. All between 200 and 300 million years old.

This find comes courtesy of intrepid NoVaMiCl travelers Casper Voogt, Deepak Kenkeremath and yours truly, all of whom have been scouting these sites low these past several weeks

Directions:

From I-66 W to Front Royal. Take Exit 43B for US29 Follow the signs for Gainesville/Warrenton/US29 and merge onto US29. Turn Left at Old Linton Hall Road (Second Light). Turn Left at Whitney Road (First Light) Continue to the first light and pull into the Target lot on the left (passed the light). Directions to each site will be given one at a time after that. Kind of a mystery thing. ?? Contact Ted Carver at 703.754.2050 (h), 571.344.4958 (c) or, preferably, email at jtcarverock@msn.com

*Not the good tableware, please.

Schedule

Upcoming Events to plan for:

18 May NVMC meeting at Long Branch Nature Center

30 May Field trip to Morefield Mine

06 June Field Trip collecting Road-Side Fossils

20 June Field Trip to Lucky Lake Gem Mine

22 June NVMC meeting at Long Branch Nature Center

Note that there will be no NVMC meetings in July and August!

President (Interim): Wayne Sukow

d8olite @ fastmail.fm (703) 280-8108

Vice President: Vacant

Secretary: Kathy Hrechka

kshrechka @ msn.com (703) 765-3187

Treasurer: Rick Reiber

rickgr3 @ comcast.net (703) 578-4224

THE
NORTHERN
VIRGINIA

MINERAL CLUB
INC



NVMC Newsletter Editor
Robert Winsor
35740 Roundleaf Ct.
Round Hill, VA 20141

Phone: 540-751-0922
Please call between 7pm and 9pm
E-mail: phototech @ comcast.net



PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
[HTTP://www.mineralclub.org](http://www.mineralclub.org)

The Northern Virginia Mineral Club

You can send your Newsletter articles to:

Robert Winsor
35740 Roundleaf Ct.
Round Hill, VA 20141

Or via email: phototech @ comcast.net

Visitors are Always Welcome at our Club Meetings.

**THIS MONTH'S
MEETING IS ON THE
18TH!**

**7:45 PM AT LONG
BRANCH NATURE CEN-
TER IN ARLINGTON
THERE IS NO
MEETING ON THE
25TH**

Purpose: To promote, educate and encourage interest in geology, mineralogy, lapidary arts and related sciences. The society is a member of Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (EFMLS)

<http://www.amfed.org/efmls> and American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS)

<http://www.amfed.org>.

Dues: Due by 1 January of each year; \$15.00 Individual, \$20.00 Family, and \$6.00 Junior (under 16, sponsored by an adult member).

Meetings are held at 7:45 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month (except

May and December*) at [Long Branch Nature Center](#), 625 Carlin Springs Road, Arlington, VA 22204. Phone (703) 228-6535. (No meeting in July & August.)

(*Changes announced in the newsletter.) Snow schedule - Arlington county schools.