

She's a Gem



**THE REGULAR MEETING** of the Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Montgomery County MD., Inc. will be held on Monday May 8th in the dining room of the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, in Rockville. The business meeting will begin at 7:45 PM but the room is available to us at 7:30 PM so come early and see what you and others have on the Show Table and chat with old friends. Tom Tucker, President of the Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area, will speak on Micro Minerals of Montana. Guests are always welcome.



**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS** will meet on Monday May 15th at 7:30 PM at the home of David and Nancy Ballard. Any member is welcome to attend but please let Nancy know if you plan to attend.

**ROSTER UPDATE** Welcome new members:



CARTER, Kenneth & Patricia, 501 2nd Ave, Brunswick MD 21716-1400,  
Carolyn 8/92, <kc21716@yahoo.com>, 301 834 6516

GRUNDEL, Erich, 2000 S. 2nd St. Apt. #8, Arlington VA 22204-1918, 703 521 3091

HYLAND, Charles & Cheryl, 11122 Flanagan Lane, Germantown MD 20876-1748,  
Charles J. 10/88, Matthew 1/92, <CMPHyland@yahoo.com>, 301 428 9658.

SHAW, Annie, 8410 Greenwood Ave. #3, Takoma Park MD 20912-6705,  
<ashaw@wwc.org>, 301 495 5799

WITT, Carolyn, 2210 Washington Ave. #102, Silver Spring MD 20910-2619,  
<wittc@iopener.net>, 301 562 7929

Changes: Barr, Chris new E Mail <cbarr@pastschell.com>

**MISSED** Frederick H. Pough, died April 7th at the age of 99, while attending the Rochester Symposium. He received his PhD at Harvard in 1935. He authored one of the oldest books on minerals for amateurs, "A Field Guide to Rocks & Minerals", which first appeared in 1953 and was revised many times. It is still in print and has sold over one million copies. He was a Curator of Physical Geology and Mineralogy at the American Museum of Natural History in Manhattan to 1953. He later was a Director of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. Writing many articles for the Lapidary Journal, he was respected as an authority. Pough was a longtime resident of Reno, Nev., until two years ago when he moved to Pittsford NY.

**HONORS** Every rockhound club needs salt-of-the-earth type individuals who are the backbone of its membership. **Jack Busch**, our candidate for **AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year**, is such a guy. He has supported lapidary clubs in the DC area for more than four decades and the Mineralogical Society of the District of Columbia for the past twenty years. In the early days of the 1960's, Jack worked on the combined clubs' annual show and for these last six years has served as MSDC treasurer. As an octogenarian and in need of back surgery, Jack recently was diagnosed by his cardiologist as very young of heart and came through the operation with flying colors. He is walking now as well as ever. We thank Jack for his years of participation in the lapidary arts and for serving as an officer of MSDC, a task he has now turned over to our new treasurer Don Greaves. We look forward to Jack's continued participation for many years to come. Submitted by Andy Thompson, President MSDC. (So we, also, are proud of the recognition given by the MSDC to Jack.)

❖After the old frontier silver prospector told all his secrets, he found it was a real lode off his mine.❖

**DEADLINE** for the June Rockhounder is May 29, 2006



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for May celebrants: Scott Braley, Alison Durland, Jean Charsky, Corky Harrison, Bob Irby, John James, Steven Karsh, Jeremy King, Bob LaVilla, and Charlotte Morrison. Emerald is your Birthstone.



**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:** Information was not received so these are notes taken by your editor. The meeting was called to order at 7:50 PM on April 10, 2006 by President Scott Braley, with attendance of about 35 people. Visitors Kenneth and Patricia Carter, Heather Felsen's brother, Jeremy Felsen, Charles Hyland, Annie Shaw, and Carolyn Witt, were introduced. The Carters, Erich Grundel, Charles Hyland, Carolyn Witt, and Annie Shaw were unanimously voted into membership. Rod Towers introduced the speaker, Ray Stanford, amateur paleontologist, whose presentation was "Dinosaur Footprints in Maryland." Abundantly illustrated with many actual specimens he had collected, he spoke about the 15 species of Dinosaur and 7 of mammal tracks he has found. They came from the US Route 1 corridor from the White Marsh Mall area north of Baltimore, south westerly into Prince Georges County. With 12 years of collecting experience he has published a paper, in cooperation with Dr. Robert Weems of the USGS, Reston, about the finds of the cretaceous fossil tracks. More of his findings will be published in conjunction with Dr. David B. Weishampel, of Johns Hopkins University. Members were very interested to hear of his finds, and gave a full round of applause. After a break, the meeting reconvened. Scott again mentioned the offer for members to receive the Rockhouser by E Mail only, saving expenses. Rory McElreavy was presented a \$100 U.S. EE bond, courtesy of Lillian Turner, friend and benefactor, for his winning Junior exhibit at the Show. Scott extolled the success of our Show, with increased attendance, thanking members for helping make it so. The April 5th death of Sheila Marshall, president of the Rockville Consortium, was noted. George Durland plans to have a display for the Rockville Science Day, a project of the consortium, at Montgomery College in Rockville on Sunday, May 7th. Patricia Jayne noted that her husband, Chris Barr would be taking boy scouts and older cub scouts on a gold panning field trip on Saturday May 6th. He has pans and equipment. Treasurer, Juan Proaño reported that we are solvent, with some bills yet coming for Show expenses. Chuck Mason brought lapidary materials for sale at marked prices on behalf of Hans Adler, who will receive 75% of realized sales, leaving 25% for the Society. George Durland brought books, and a cabinet of micros for sale at set prices. This material belonged to Stephanie Sidella, after her father's death, and was a donation to the Society. Scott Braley brought specimens for free distribution from his collecting in SC. Upcoming Field trips were discussed by Wendell Mohr for Anita Lizas James. See listings on page 4. Scott said that he was formulating a non-official trip to Poland Camps in ME. Upcoming area shows were mentioned by Wendell. Dr. Pough's death was noted. Wendell read a note of thanks for a member contribution to the AFMS Scholarship Fund, raising our club level to 8000% (100% is \$1 for each member). Show table items were discussed and the door prizes were given. The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 PM

**APRIL PRIZES:** Show Table, Rod Towers won Opalized Wood from Pouraznik, Bejstria, Slovakia. Door Prize, Jane Kuehn won a Trilobite, *Metacanthiva* species, from the Atlas Mountains, Morocco. Junior Prize, Rory McElreavy won a Malachite from Katanga, Democratic Republic of Congo.

**APRIL SHOW TABLE:**

\* = Self collected or made.

Scott Braley: Clinozoisite, Rockville Quarry\*.

George Durland: Tugtupite, Chkalovite, Kvanefjeld, Greenland; Barite in Calcite, Ogdensburg NJ.

Karen Durland, Silver pendant with Franklinite, Calcite, Zincite cabochon\*.

Heather Felsen, [Diopside, Garnet = ] Rodingite, Calcite, Quartz, Rockville Quarry\*.

John Kuehn, Turquoise, Turkey; Three unknowns\*.

Audrey McElravy, Carnelian, New Zealand.

Continued on Page 3



Continued from Page 2

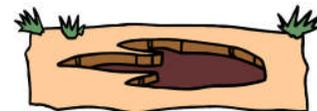
Rory McElravy, Greenstone, Fiord land, New Zealand.

Wendell Mohr: Show Pictures, GLMSMC Show at Fairgrounds.

Georgia Olmstead, Two plaster of Paris casts of Dinosaur footprints, Positive and Negative, Culpepper Quarry, Stevensville VA.

Joel Rosen: Rhodonite, Tamsworth, New South Wales, Australia; Datolite (Fluorescent), Mendicino Co. CA; Topaz with aragonite, Topaz Mountain, Juab Co. UT

Rod Towers: Microscope, specimens



**BOARD MEETING MINUTES** The Secretary was absent so these are notes taken by your editor. The Meeting of April 17, 2006 at Ballard's home was called to order by President, Scott Braley, at 7:35 PM. Board Members present: Scott Braley, George Durland, Frances Gallegos, Wendell Mohr, Juan Proaño, Rod Towers. Members present: David and Nancy Ballard. Scott mentioned that an unofficial trip to the Poland Mining Camps in ME would be in September. George Durland will write up a nomination for the Society for the Each One Teach One award for this year. The nominee's name will remain confidential until the appropriate time. Scott received information on nominations for the EFMLS Regional Vice President. Scott will be presenting a program on May 24th for the Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area on micro minerals of Maine . Rod reported that Tom Tucker will present our program for May. Juan reported the current status of Society accounts and a summary for Show income and expenses noting that the bills for publicity and chair rental for the show are yet to be received. George Durland will talk to Jeffrey Post about a donation for the budgeted amount for the NMNH Mineral Sciences Dept. this year. George Durland will also contact Pat Jayne for advice on establishing the Society as a 501C3 corporation. Jennie Smith disbursed remaining specimens from Jennie and Paul's collection to five area G&M groups. David Ballard is in possession of about 2 cubic feet of boxed small specimens for our club, the disposition of which the Board needs to decide. Juan and George have 9 boxes of remaining specimens donated by Stephanie Sidella which will be offered at the May meeting at fixed prices. The Sidella material sold in April yielded \$107.50 for the club, and the Hans Adler material yielded \$26.50 (25% of gross sales). Possible expenditure for buses on field trips was discussed . Scott will be pursuing the establishment of a new Society Web Site. An extensive discussion of the March Show took place. All agreed the show was a great success and dealers and visitors expressed happiness. It is believed that we should keep the show basically as it is now. It is great for junior attendees. Specific recommendations will be implemented for the 2007 show. Others will be considered. The first important task is the need to secure a Show Chairman for 2007. Some individuals will be personally contacted and the position will be open for consideration at the May general meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 PM.



**SUNSHINE** Mary Beth Mason still needs your prayers for recovery.



**MORE THANKS** Chris Herbstritt and Tom Parnell were inadvertently omitted from the list of volunteers who helped at the Show Take down. We thank them here, now!

**NOTES** Rose Williams, widow of deceased long time member Bob Williams sent a brief note to Nancy Ballard thanking her for her years as editor and for sending the newsletter to her. She commented that she spent the past year celebrating her 90th birthday, but feels her health is declining. She sends her regards to all members. We wish you well, Rose. Go for 100!

In a letter to Wendell, member, Charlotte Morrison of Boulder CO, also noted the long time service of Nancy, producing the Rockhounder for every issue without fail. Charlotte is Editor of the newsletter of the Flatirons Mineral Club, with assistance of computer literate volunteers. Other remarks concerned the AFMS effort to get gemstones on stamps, which she is supporting, and comments on the use of E Mail for newsletters. Wendell saw her at the Denver Gem and Mineral Shows a couple of years ago. Best Regards, Charlotte!

**FIELD TRIPS.**

**April 9th**, Sunday, Hunting Hill Quarry, Rockville, 9:00 AM to Noon or later, \$5.00 collecting fee.

**April 22nd**, Martin Marietta's Pinesburg Quarry, Williamsport MD, 8:30 AM to Noon.

**April 29th**, University of Maryland Geology Tour. The University of Maryland will be holding its annual Open House. The Geology Department is extending an invitation to the various clubs in the Washington area to a special tour of their facilities with demonstrations of their equipment and a lecture. The tour includes tours of their spectrograph labs, the "Special lab", a lecture, and a personalized guided tour of their geology museum. Meet at 9:30 AM in front of the Geology building on the Campus of the University of Maryland. Parking is available in the parking lot adjacent to the Geology Dept. Contact Mary Bateman at 703 521 4614 or at <mbateman1@verizon.net> if you are interested. You must pre-register for this tour as space is limited. Reservations will be taken until April 25 on a first come, first served basis.

**May 5th**, Friday, Martin Mountain Quarry, near Flintstone MD, 8:30 AM to ? Reply to Fred Parker, 301 620 7591 or <parkermineral@aol.com>.

**May 6th**, Saturday, Medford Quarry, near Westminster MD, 8:15 AM to ?.

**June 17th**, Saturday, Medford Quarry, near Westminster MD, 8:15 AM to ?.

**July 1st**, Saturday, Mount St. Hillaire, Quebec Province, near Montreal, Canada. \$10 CDN required. Side tours to Herkimer NY for "Herkimer" diamonds (Quartz) and to the Gore Mountain Garnet Mine in the NY Adirondacks.

For further **information** on trips listed, **contact Anita** Lizas James, Phone 301 652 5527, E Mail <johnjames04@comcast.net>. Also contact her if you want to be on her E Mail list for notification.





## ROCKVILLE SCIENCE DAY 2006

**Sunday, May 7**  
**12 Noon to 5:00 PM**

**Montgomery College**  
**Rockville Campus**




Come and have a  
great family time

Rockets, Robots, Reptiles, Rocks,  
Recycling, Reacting Chemicals,  
and so much more

Parking and Admission Free

Directions:  
Montgomery College is located on MD Route 355,  
just to the south of Gude Drive in Rockville.  
Park in the north parking lot, and follow the signs to the  
main exhibit area in the Physical Education Center.

For more information, contact Bob Ekman,  
301-340-9696, bob.ekman@att.net

Directions:  
I-270 to Exit 68 Rt. 28  
Turn Left at Traffic Light at Darnestown  
Road. Turn Left at Traffic Light at Tra-  
vilah Road. (Burger King on corner). Go  
About a mile, look for quarry signs to  
quarry entrance on left.

www.rockvillescience.org

Sponsors:  
City of Rockville, Rockville Consortium for Science,  
Montgomery College - Rockville Campus

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AND OUR COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

AGGREGATE INDUSTRIES  
PRESENTS THE 14TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION

# EARTH DAY

at the  
TRAVILAH QUARRY

SATURDAY, MAY 6th

10am to 3pm

450 Foot  
Deep  
Quarry Pit

\*Free Admission—Have a Great Time on us!!!

\*Refreshments 10-3  
Hot Dogs, Burgers,  
Veggies, Desserts

\*Commemorative T-Shirts

\*Games and Prizes for Kids

\*Drawings for ORIOLES TICKETS

Quarry Pit  
Bus Tours

10 AM  
To 3 PM  
Last 3 PM  
Rain or  
Shine

\*Drawings for Washington  
\*Nationals Tickets

\*Face Painting and Clowns

\*Petting Zoo

\*Giant Slide

\*Music by D.J.

Directions: I-270 to Exit 68 Rt. 28  
Turn Left at Traffic Light at Darnestown  
Road. Turn Left at Traffic Light at Tra-  
vilah Road. (Burger King on corner). Go  
About a mile, look for quarry signs to  
quarry entrance on left.

NO PETS  
PLEASE

Come out and support  
Our community library  
And schools

Call Debbie at 301 294 6404  
For further information  
QuarryEarthDay@aol.com

WWW.QuarryEarthDay.com

**SAFETY FIRST - FIELD HAZARDS**

By Bill Klose, EFMLS Safety Chair

The renewal of spring with all its beauty and bounty, also brings out the reptiles, insects, spiders, centipedes, scorpions, and poison oaks, ivy, and sumacs.

Wood and deer ticks, which occur in thick woods or tall grasses, are associated with Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Lyme Disease, encephalitis (Brain inflammation), Ehrlichiosis, and Babesiosis.

The symptoms of Lyme Disease include an expanding red rash around small hard white lumps that can resemble a "Bullseye", arthritis, fever, chills, aches, enlarged lymph glands, and joint swelling. Not all these symptoms may occur which makes diagnosis difficult. Several weeks to several months later, symptoms may include facial paralysis, joint inflammation, heart palpitations, memory loss/difficulty concentrating, and changes in sleep habits or mood. Early diagnosis and treatment by a doctor will produce complete recovery. There is no immunity built up to Lyme Disease after having had it, but it can't be passed from person to person. A vaccine has been developed, but may not be recommended for everyone, including the very young and the elderly. The disease is restricted to warm weather, normally April through September, in most parts of the U. S. when ticks are active. Not all ticks carry the disease. Even if you are bitten, the tick usually will lodge in the skin for 36 to 48 hours to pass on the bacteria that causes Lyme Disease.



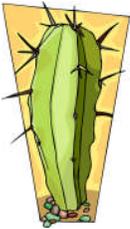
The best protection from tick born disease is not to allow ticks a point of entry through your clothes, the use of tick repellent in areas where ticks are known to occur, staying clear of tall grass and dense woods, and frequent inspection of you and your pets for ticks. When you find a tick, promptly and carefully remove and dispose of the tick. Do not crush the tick between your fingers which could expose you to the disease. Wash your hands after handling ticks. Make sure you remove the ticks head from the wound. The use of alcohol, a hot needle or cigarette to get a tick to back out is not effective. A good set of tweezers around the tick's head works best.



Caterpillars may have poisonous spines or hairs which can cause skin irritation, itching, redness and a raised rash. Wash well after coming in contact with a caterpillar.

Most animal bites are caused by household pets, however bites from wild animals can be especially dangerous because of the possibility of being exposed to rabies. Bites that only break the skin should be washed thoroughly with soap and water and covered with an antibiotic cream and clean bandage. If you haven't had a tetanus shot in the past 10 years, get a booster shot. A bite where the skin is badly torn or there are deep punctures and is bleeding should have pressure applied to stop the bleeding and should be shown to a

Doctor as soon as possible. If there are signs of infection or you suspect the animal may have rabies (Displays odd behavior, is foaming at the mouth, etc.) see your Doctor immediately.



If you are in an arid region and are stuck by cactus spines, pull the spines out with tweezers or fine tooth comb, being careful not to break the spines off in the skin. For fine spines, use adhesive tape or apply a thick layer of household glue, letting it dry, then slowly peel it off, taking the attached spines with it. Apply an antiseptic to the punctures and watch for any infection that can be caused by fungus on the spines.

Valley Fever (Ed.: Coccidioidomycosis) is well known to fossil collectors at Shark Tooth Hill in Kern County, California, but it is also known to occur across the Southwestern U. S. to Texas and into Northern Mexico. The disease can last for years, but once recovered, a person is immune. Valley Fever cannot be transferred from person to person and no vaccine is available. Valley Fever is a highly infectious fungus which occurs in the soil and is inhaled as airborne spores into the lungs. Most cases occur during dry periods following periods of rain. It produces flu-like symptoms and, in rare cases, serious fever and scarring of the lung tissue. It is occasionally fatal or causes meningitis. The cure is bed rest and possibly antibiotics.

Pulmonary Syndrome Hantavirus occurs in rodent urine, feces, and saliva in the Southwestern U. S. It is primarily carried by the deer mouse, but has also been detected in pinion and brush mice, and the Western Chipmunk. The symptoms include a high fever, backache, respiratory distress, excessive urine production (Polyuria) and abdominal pain with possible hemorrhaging of the capillaries. Recovery is in three weeks or kidney failure is possible. Death may result from the loss of blood. Person to person transmission and transmission by insects or cats and dogs is not known to occur. Protection includes staying away from areas with heavy rodent infestation and the use of HEPA (High Efficiency Particulate Air) respirators when having to enter areas known to have the infection or heavy rodent infestation. A fairly rare disease, but with a high mortality rate, it is well worth being aware of.



**LIBRARY** More Society library contents are listed here for you to see. You can ask the new librarian, Jonathan Harris to check out any of the books listed. Call Jonathan at 301 545 0808 or send him an E Mail at <jgharris7@comcast.net>. Use it or Lose it!

	<b>Books of GLMSMC</b>	<b>Title</b>
217	Euler&Tikalsky, ed.	<u>The Grand Canyon</u>
218	Barr	<u>Geology: Local Resources for Collecting and Learning About Rocks&amp;Fossils</u>
219	Wallace	<u>The Miners</u>
220	Hurlburt	<u>Minerals and Man</u>
221	Rynerson	<u>Gems and Gold in the West</u>
222	Pearl	<u>Colorado Gem Trails &amp; Mining Guide</u>
223		<u>Ward's Earth Science Catalog</u>
224		Assorted Pamphlets on Canada Mineral Collecting
225		Raytech Catalog
226		Star Diamond Catalog
227	Ransom	A Range Guide to Mines and Minerals
228	Hayes	A Guide for Rockhounds and Prospectors
229	Sloan	Mineral & Gem Trails of New England
230	WV Highlands Conservancy	Hiking Guide to Monongahela National Forest and Vicinity
231	Hahn	Towpath Guide to the C&O Canal
232	Hahn	Towpath Guide to the C&O Canal
233	Coles	Two Books in One Jewelry
234	McGrath	The Encyclopedia of Jewelry Making Techniques
235	David Techter	Stereogram book of Rocks Minerals & Gems
236	Alan Woolley	Spotters Guide to Rocks & Minerals
237	Sorrell	A Guide to Field Identification Rocks and Minerals
238	Fenton and Fenton	The Rock Book
239	Vanders & Kerr	Mineral Recognition



<b>Videos of GLMS</b>		
<b>#</b>	<b>By</b>	<b>Title</b>
1		Gemstones of America
2		The Minerals of Morocco
3		Stewart Tourmaline Story
4	Learning Channel	Hunt for Amazing Treasures
5	Frontline	Diamonds-The DeBeers Cartel
6	GLMS	32nd GLMS Show
7	GLMS	32nd GLMS Show
8	GLMS	33rd GLMS Show
9	GLMS	34th GLMS Show
10	GLMS	34th GLMS Show
11		Gold Dredge (California)
12	GLMS	38th GLMS Show
13	GLMS	39th GLMS Show
14		Creating a Cabochon
15		First Steps to Lapidary
16	?	Salt ??????



**SPHINX OF BLACK QUARTZ, JUDGE MY VOW** It is a panagram. What is a panagram, you ask? A phrase containing all 26 alphabet letters. “The quick brown fox jumps over a lazy dog” is better known.

**SMITHSONIAN TALK** June 16, Friday, Noon at the Baird auditorium. NMNH, Dr. Doug Erwin will speak on “Extinction-How Life on Earth Nearly Ended 250 Million Years Ago”. The mass extinction story , the biodiversity crisis, rapid changes in ocean chemistry, and the aftermath will be discussed. Book signing after.

**IVORY IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOP**

Saturday, June 10, 2006 10 AM-4 PM, There will be an All Day, Hands-On Workshop featuring an extensive slide program and each student will be provided with an illustrated workbook to follow along and take notes. Learn the key identifying characteristics of the following ivories and ivory look-alikes and how to identify them through non-destructive testing techniques: Natural Ivories: Elephant, Mammoth, Walrus, Hippo, Whale, Narwhal, Warthog, Boar, Seal and Elk. You will also see rare examples of Babirusa and Dugong. Natural Ivory Substitutes: Bone, Antler, Vegetable Ivory, Hornbill Ivory, as well as other not so convincing examples of Shell, Coral, Meerschaum, "Ivoryite", Chalcedony and Amber. Manufactured Ivory Substitutes: Celluloid and Polymer/Plastics. There will be a Black Light Demonstration (Long Wave Ultraviolet) so each student can see the different reaction each material has to the source. The following may be helpful to bring but not necessary: 3X loupe or hand-held magnifier, 10X loupe and an Optivisor. Participants are encouraged to bring Show & Tell and unknowns from their collections. These will be discussed during the lunch break. Please, bring your own lunch. There is a refrigerator in the room. This seminar is sponsored by the Washington DC Chapter of the GIA Alumni Association. Class Location: at the home of Bobby Mann. Contact her for registration or more information at <mannivorymann@aol.com> or 301 894 2016. Please copy this coupon and mail with your check, made check payable to DCGIA Alumni for \$25.00 per person to: Bobby Mann, 4111 Rocky Mount Drive, Temple Hills, MD 20748-5646. Your Check is your reservation. Mail before June 3rd, Please. Sign up early, class size is limited. Thanks to Cathy Gaber for the information.

Name _____  Address _____  Phone _____ E-mail _____
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**SWAP & PICNIC** The Annual EFMLS Region IV Swap & Picnic will take place Saturday, June 10, 2006, 9 AM-3PM at Lake Anna State Park, VA, Shelter #1. Highlights: Material Swapping, renowned Region IV Treasure Box, and our outstanding Picnic Pot Luck Lunch. Swapping and socializing will begin at 9 AM. NO selling is allowed at the park, so only bring the tons of material you have for swapping. At noon grilled hot dogs will compliment the pot luck dish you wish to share with others. A fun auction will begin at 1:30 PM. Material to be auctioned will consist of donations you bring. Items should be at least somewhat hobby related. Weird, wild, funny, odd, and unusual stuff you have accumulated will be great. Door prizes: Bring one with you because everyone loves to win! The Region IV Treasure Box will be open all day. Bring items that you have a ton of or no longer want. Hobby related, of course. Remember, one rockhound's junk is another rockhound's treasure. Bring a lawn chair. Wear a hat. Join the fun!



**STAMPS** 40 natural and man made wonders of the United States are depicted on the stamp pane being issued May 27th by the USPS. Of those, 17 are geologically based: **Highest** sea cliffs; **Tallest** sand dunes, geyser, waterfall; **Largest** estuary, glacier, lake, desert, canyon, delta, natural bridge; **Longest** mountain chain, river system, cave; **Deepest** lake; **Oldest** mountains; and **Most Active** volcano selected from every region of the country. Text on the back of each stamp provides relevant statistics and other interesting information.



**EFMLS 2006 AFMS SCHOLARSHIP HONOREE**

by Wayne Sukow, EFMLS President

The Eastern Federation has the pleasure of announcing its selection for the 2006 AFMS SCHOLARSHIP award. A professor at the University of Massachusetts at Lowell, Dr. Richard Yuretich, is the 2006 honoree. Dr. Yuretich has an undergraduate major in German and a PhD. in Geology from Princeton University. His geology interests include lake sediments, clay minerals, environmental geochemistry, sedimentology, and education. You can read more details on his web site <<http://www.geo.umass.edu/faculty/yuretich>>. What are his interests in the mineral and lapidary hobby? Did you miss the "edu" in the E Mail address? That means he's not only very interested in teaching geology students at the university but he's involved in educational research for teaching of undergraduate courses and improving the science preparation of prospective kindergarten through 12th



grade teachers. As we in the mineral and lapidary hobby eagerly like to share our enthusiasm and collections with those new to the hobby, we are unconsciously depending on Dr. Yuretich's work in educating and motivating a new generation of earth science teachers who will in turn share their knowledge, enthusiasm, and collections with their students doing it with such passion that many will want to continue learning about our hobby and build their own collections. Now he has the task of selecting two of graduate students to receive the scholarships. Perhaps one will be a K-12 teacher! We thank him for his work to sustain our hobby, recognizing and honoring him as our 2006 AFMS Scholarship honoree.

**WILDACRES** The May EFMLS Wildacres Workshop is set to go May 22-28. One or two last minute enrollees can be accepted, but class placement will probably be limited. The guest speaker will be Helen Seras-Herman, who many of you know, formerly a speaker and dealer at our show. The fall session, Sep. 11-17 still has a number of places available. Tom Tucker will be the workshop guest speaker. He is a retired geologist who has traveled extensively in Europe and the USA and will share some interesting adventures and experiences collecting minerals. (He is our Society's May speaker) There will be a full range of classes including silver smithing, taught by Richard Meszler, faceting, taught by Steve Weinberger, and micromounting, taught by Carolyn Weinberger. Additional classes will include precious metal clay, beaded bezels, wire-wrapping, and wire sculpture, soapstone carving, cabling, opal cutting, judging and exhibiting, and forging/gold forming. Tuition for either session is only \$320 for the week per person which includes room and board. There is a small charge for materials depending on what classes you take. A week at Wildacres affords you an excellent opportunity to get away from the hustle and bustle of life. You'll be at a mountaintop retreat just off the Blue Ridge Parkway near Little Switzerland NC. Your days will be spent in classes, hearing a couple of talks, communicating with about 80 other people who all are interested in our wonderful hobby, and most importantly, having fun. Although days have lots of scheduled activities, the time schedule allows for a relaxed atmosphere with plenty of time to sit and talk and appreciate the surroundings. There's always an auction, tailgating, and a free day to go exploring, and a fun night. Our members who have attended all come back with very positive remarks about the opportunity. If you have any questions, please contact either Debbie Bard, Registrar, at <[debbard@frontiernet.net](mailto:debbard@frontiernet.net)> or 717 294 3667 or Al DeMilo, Director, at <[abdemilo@aol.com](mailto:abdemilo@aol.com)> or 301 262 6014. If you would like to go for either session, Wendell Mohr and Scott Braley have information and entry forms.

**RAFFLE** The 2006 AFMS Endowment Fund Drawing now has over a dozen fabulous prizes and more are expected. Donations have been received from every one of the seven AFMS Regional Federations and more are still expected! You may donate mineral or fossil specimens, gems, jewelry, new books, etc. You will want to help support this once-a-year fund-raiser for the AFMS Endowment Fund. Make a donation or purchase tickets for the raffle. Cost \$5.00 each (Or get 5 tickets for \$20), from Joy Bourne, Chair, AFMS Endowment Fund, RR #1, Box 159A, Towanda, PA 18848-9739, (570) 265-6454 or <[csprings@epix.net](mailto:csprings@epix.net)> to win any of the beautiful and valuable prizes. The drawing will be at the August 19th AFMS Awards Dinner at Nashville TN. You need not be present to win. See <<http://amfed.org/>> for details and photographs of the awards.

**WEB SITES**

A,B,C,D,E,F,G,Http://www. Contributed by Wendell C. Mohr

**Agates From Argentina**, by Ricardo and Claudia Burnie, of Buenos Aires, Argentina is strong in photographs but weak in verbiage about the formation of the agates. In a unique notebook format at <<http://www.rexpler.com.ar/>>, "Showcase", Patagonian, Gravel Pit, and Condor agates, are shown and include over 450 pictures. A few more are under Gravel Pit Jaspers. "Landscapes" depicts the authors, scenery, and some rough agates in the field. "More to come in 2006" has several repeat categories with over 200 more photos. Links lead to other appealing agate sites. Determining if what you find is truly agate is easy. Lick it. If it is salty it is agate, if not, it has been licked before. Chuck Mason found an agate showing three eyes. I told him that Lenscrafters can make glasses for it in about 1 1/2 hours.



**Dixie.Euhedrals**, by Rodney Moore, <<http://www.dixieeuhedrals.net/>>, features pay-to-dig mining in GA. Site organization is a little obtuse, but noodle around for yourself for fun. The Amethyst is superb but Quartz, Smoky quartz, Tourmaline, Aquamarine, Rutile and a host of other minerals from about eight locations will also make your mouth water. Being a commercial venture there are specimens for sale. A trip leader got the latest technology to warn members of time to leave the place. It was built into his boots. It was a shoe horn. Some collectors I know went into a fee collecting place after hours even though it said "No Trespassing". Next thing you know, the police were leading them out. It was an assisted leaving facility.



**The Eclectic Lapidary**, <[http://eclecticlapidary.com/el\\_cfm2/main.cfm](http://eclecticlapidary.com/el_cfm2/main.cfm)>, is a web 'zine. Edited by Carol J. Bova, a Californian, who has her own commercial site under Bova gems, this free magazine offers much to every visitor and more to registered members (Join free). The current issue and archives from Dec. '96-Mar '06 have articles of interest covering not only lapidary but minerals, collecting and more. The Trading Post and Event Calendar look to be very formative yet. A lapidary enthusiast carved a bird as his first carving project. It was a tern. He'll make more because one good tern deserves another.

**UPCOMING SHOWS:**

**May 6-7**, 43rd Semi-annual Bead Bazaar of the Bead Society of Greater Washington, Sat., 10 AM-5 PM, Sun., 11 AM-5 PM, North Building, Bolger Center, 9600 Newbridge Drive, off Democracy Boulevard, Potomac MD, Admission \$7.00, Children under 12 free. See <<http://www.beadmuseumdc.org/bazaars.html>> for information and \$1 discount certificate.

**May 27**, Sat., 10 AM-4 PM, 17th Annual Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Show at Goucher, Goucher College, Towson MD. Take I-695 Exit 27A south on Dulaney Valley Rd. to College entrance. Follow entrance road around to large parking lot adjacent to Kraushaar Auditorium. Show is in auditorium's lobby and covered pavilion. Information: Phyllis Dyer, 410 349 1630, <[stevedyer4@juno.com](mailto:stevedyer4@juno.com)>.

**August 5-6**. Sat., 10 AM-6 PM, Sun., 10 AM-5 PM, the 57th Annual Gem Show, hosted by The Gem, Lapidary & Mineral Society of Washington, DC. Note new Location: Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart, 9101 Rockville Pike. Adults \$6, Seniors \$5, Children under 16 free with a paid admission. Free Parking. See website for directions to show <<http://www.GLMSDC.com>>.

**August 18-20**, AFMS Convention and show, Nashville, TN, billed as "Rockin' in Music City". AFMS meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 15 (Uniform Rules Comm.) and 16 (AFMS Annual Meeting). Field trips and other activities are also being planned. Complete information, including schedule, registration and exhibitor forms will be printed in the May AFMS Newsletter, <<http://www.amfed.org>>.

**September 23-24**, 42nd Annual Atlantic Coast Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show hosted by the Gem Cutter's Guild of Baltimore, Howard County Fairgrounds, MD Route 32 at I-70, West Friendship MD.

**November 18-19**, Sat., 9 AM-6 PM, Sun., 10 AM-5 PM, 40th Annual Gem & Mineral Show and the 56th EFMLS Convention sponsored by the Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches. Southern Florida Fairgrounds, West Palm Beach FL. EFMLS Annual Meeting Fri., Nov. 17th

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All Society correspondence is to be sent to this address except that which is intended for the Rockhounder and its editor. Such items are to be sent to the editor's home address.



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