

The purpose of the Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Montgomery County MD, Inc. is “to increase knowledge and popular interest in earth sciences, geology, mineralogy, paleontology, lapidary arts, and related subjects.”

FROM THE EDITOR

Sometimes during the breaks at our monthly meetings, I find myself looking wistfully at the room where the kids are having their meeting. I envy them what they are learning and how easily they seem to assimilate the material. The long words that trip me up, trip easily off their tongues; the chronology of the eras doesn't seem to give them pause.

Thanks to my sister and our rock hunting trips, I have learned the basics on rock identification, but there is so much that I don't know. So, I again request that members help educate us on your area of interest. I would like an article on understanding fluorescence; one on how to tell the age of a specimen; one on the basic geology of the Mid-Atlantic area; or one on whatever interests you.

Kristin Lolmaugh

REGULAR MEETINGS

Meetings are held the 2nd Monday of the month from September to June. The Society will meet on Monday, February 11, 2013, in the dining room of the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, Rockville. A short business meeting will begin at 7:45 pm, but the room is available to us at 7:30 pm.

The speaker will be Katie Loughney who will be discussing the Geology and Paleontology of our area. Katie Loughney graduated from Beloit College in 2006 with a B.S. in geology. She completed her M.S. in geology in 2010 at the University of Rhode Island and she was the 2011-2012 guest scientist and paleontologist at the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The next meeting will be held Monday, February 18, 2013, at the home of Andy Muir. All Board members are expected to be there. Any member is welcome to attend but kindly let Andy know if you plan to attend at amuir21@comcast.net or phone 301-990-1370.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: HELLO FELLOW ROCKHOUNDERS

Our Rock Show on March 16th and March 17th is fast approaching and that means it's time to sign up and join in on the fun! This year we would like to have all seven machines in the Shop staffed between 12 noon and 2 PM Saturday and Sunday. Even if you have never cut a cabochon before, we can teach you in a few minutes. As always, we need lots of folks for setup and teardown. So look at the

Deadline for the March issue of the Rockhounder is February 25, 2013.

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REMINDER
If schools in Montgomery County, MD, are cancelled or let out early because of weather on the day of a scheduled Society meeting, the meeting will be cancelled. If in doubt, call the Society President or a Board Member (numbers on the back of *The Rockhounder*).

various positions available (page 12). Even four hours for the weekend would go a long way toward creating a fun and educational experience for kids of all ages!

But wait there's more!

I would be remiss in my duties as your President if I did not use my bully pulpit to enlist you and your rocks in another educational enterprise.

Sharon Lyon is Professor of Physical Science at Howard Community College and a member of our club. She would like samples that would be used in teaching introductory Geo Science Classes. The rock and mineral samples should be fist size and display the crystal habit, cleavage or other characteristics that would enable an introductory student to identify it.

She needs: gypsum, dolomite, quartz, olivine, pyroxene, biotite, hornblende (amphibole), chalcopyrite, orthoclase feldspar, galena, fluorite, plagioclase feldspar, muscovite, garnet, magnetite, pyrite, hematite, diorite, gabbro, rhyolite, andesite, basalt, obsidian, pumice, peridotite, conglomerate, sandstone, graywacke, shale, gyprock, chert, coquina, breccia, dolostone, lignite coal, bituminous coal, slate, phyllite, gneiss, marble, quartzite, greenstone, anthracite coal, and hornfels.

The Historical Geology lab has plenty of crinoids and brachiopods but she can use any other fossils.

Any donation will be going to the Howard Community College Educational Foundation, which is a nonprofit organization and is tax deductible. Sharon's work email is slyon@howardcc.edu.

Please look through your collections and help us fulfill the purpose of our club, "to increase knowledge and popular interest in earth sciences..."

Andy B. Prez

CLUB MEETING MINUTES: JANUARY 14, 2013

The January 14, 2013, meeting was called to order by President Andy Celmer at 7:41 pm, with approximately 73 people attending. It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2012, regular meeting.

Treasurer: Andy Muir reported that the club is doing wonderfully. Income is from dealer payments and member dues. The club made donations to the AFMS Scholarship Fund, The EFMLS Education Fund, The AFMS Endowment, and the ALAA.

President: Andy Celmer thanked member Kristine Vaitkus for volunteering to send snail mail versions of the club newsletter. To reduce the time required the club has discontinued sending snail mail versions to those who receive it by email as well.

Field Trips: Jonathan Harris requested a member volunteer to lead the upcoming trip to JMU, as he is not available.

EFML Liaison: Wendell Mohr reported on upcoming rock related events and classes.

Show: Pat Repik-Byrne distributed the show sign-up sheets. She has a short write-up describing duties of volunteer positions. Please contact Pat if you would like to sign up. She also had exhibit and demonstrator sign-up forms. The exhibit forms are due by February 14th. Elmer Lantz stated that the core hours for the shop are noon-2:00. We would like the shop fully staffed during this time. Please sign up. George Durland passed out show flyers.

Membership: It was MSP to approve the membership of Tom Rusnack.

WINNERS!

Junior Table:

Lepidote – Conrad Smith

Tourmaline in quartz – Conrad Smith

Show Table:

Cave calcite – Diane Leaman

Apophyllite – Rod Towers

General:

Barite crystals on quartz – Andy Muir

Spessartine – Kiska Greenberg

CONGRATULATIONS!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

The club welcomes new member, Tom Rusnack.

Presentation: Vice president Chris Luzier introduced the speaker for the evening, member Gary Letcher. He discussed waterfalls of Maryland, from his book, *Exploring the Waterfalls of the Mid-Atlantic*. In the same way that he collects rocks, Gary collects waterfalls. His interest began with a disagreement over the highest falls in New Jersey – Passaic Falls as contended by his mother or Buttermilk Falls as he contended. First he discussed what he used for a definition of a waterfall and discussed various types of waterfalls. Waterfalls can be free-fall, block, tumble, slide, karst fenster, or the classic hanging falls. He also discussed ways of finding waterfalls to explore, from USGS maps to local knowledge. Ways to measure the heights of falls were discussed. Gary presented the 14 waterfalls in Maryland that fit his criteria. He finished with the answer to his original disagreement. Both were wrong, the tallest falls in New Jersey is Greenbrook Falls at 250 feet. Thank you, Gary.

Prizes: Joel Rosen administered the double drawings for the door prize and show table prize.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:32 pm.

Jeff Cessna, Secretary

BOARD MEETING MINUTES: JANUARY 28, 2013

Board Members present: Andy Celmer, Doug Baum, Jeff Cessna, Jonathan Harris, Kristin Lolmaugh, Wendell Mohr, Andy Muir, Pat Repik-Byrne, and Joel Rosen. **Guests present:** Mark Dahlman, Holly McNeil. **Board Members not present:** Eric Kindahl, Chris Luzier, Rod Towers. President Andy Celmer called the January 28, 2013 meeting to order at 7:38 pm.

Treasurer: Andy Muir presented the treasurer's report. The club continues in strong financial shape. Expenses include donations previously reported at the regular meeting. A check auto-stamper was purchased. The checking account signature authority needs updating to reflect current president. Considering guidance from a discussion with Steve Turner, it was M/S/P to fund junior activities (such as, FRA and Mini-Miners) from the Lillian Turner Fund. All other monetary donations directed toward juniors will be added to this fund. The status of tax filings was discussed. Insurance has been paid and a copy of the endorsement has been requested.

Show: It was M/S/P to purchase the proposed supplies for the junior's area of the show, allocating approximately \$300. It was M/S/P to set the Lillian Turner Prize amounts at \$150, \$125, and \$100 for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes, respectively, and to allow the judges certain limited additional discretion. For the above motions, the funds will come from the Lillian Turner Fund. Bob Irby donated tumbled stones which will be used in the junior's area. Allocation of display cases was discussed. Pat Repik-Byrne or Andy Celmer will email members regarding volunteer needs. Training of shop volunteers was discussed and training at the show is preferred. Production of a show manual is being considered. Show exit surveys were considered. Pat will produce a draft. Options for expanding show publicity were discussed.

Membership: Doug Baum distributed an updated roster. Candidate members present, but not voted on during the January meeting, will be voted upon during next convened regular meeting.

Editor: Doug Baum will transmit new member and roster change information to Kristin Lolmaugh. Those providing newsletter information are reminded to submit material by the deadline.

EFMLS Liaison: Volunteers are still need for the Rockville Science Day. Past volunteers are unavailable that day. A request was made for a member to lead children from a local nature center in gold-panning or other club relevant activities. Wendell Mohr will pursue volunteers.

President: Solicitation of member donations to Howard Community College, through Professor Sharon Lyon, of classroom materials and Maryland-themed display minerals were discussed. Contact for info is Andy Celmer. Board members and committee chairmen are requested to review their job descriptions and send updates to Mark Dahlman.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:58 pm.

FIELD TRIPS

April 26-28, 2013 – Graves Mountain, GA:

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. (SFMS) has issued an open invitation for clubs to join them in a field trip to Graves Mountain, which is known for the finest rutile crystals in the US. The caretaker in charge of Graves Mountain, Clarence Norman Jr., has announced plans to hold a three day dig and rock swap on the Mountain during April and October of 2013. He will have the mountain open to collecting from 8 am to 6 pm each day. There will be an area in the upper parking lot for tables to be setup for daily rock swaps. Hot food cooked on the grill, cold drinks, and chips will be available for purchase on the mountain during all three days of these events. Contact Information: Clarence Norman Jr. (Junior) – 706-359-3862 (business) or 706-401-3173 (cell).

Club member, Donna Rimar, did some research on the area and provides the following information. Georgia has a number of interesting rock collection sites located mostly in the northern half of the state. Graves Mountain is located in Lincoln County on the far eastern side of Georgia about a third of the way down the state. Two reference books provide good overviews of this dig site. One book is Allan W. Eckert's *Earth Treasures Volume 2: The Southeastern Quadrant* published in 2000 and the other is Kathy Rygle and Stephen Pedersen's *Southeast Treasure Hunter's Gem and Mineral Guide* published in 2006.

Earth Treasures notes that Graves Mountain has spectacular crystals of kyanite, sharply



terminated crystals of pale blue lazulite, bladed crystals of silvery green pyrophyllite, as well as gem quality rutile. In addition to these minerals, the *Gem and Mineral Guide* notes that Graves Mountain has hematite, pyrite, ilmenite, muscovite, fuchsite, barite, sulfur, blue crystals, quartz crystals, and microcrystals such as woodhouseite, variscite, strengite, phosphosiderite, cacoenite, and crandallite.

If you decide to join this dig and have the time, there are a number of additional sites in the immediate area that might be worth visiting while in the area. McDuffie County, just southwest of Lincoln County, has a number of sites where gold has been found. Cherokee County, to the northwest, has a number of places where Staurolite has been found. This county also has sites where beryl, muscovite, tourmaline, apatite, garnet, and other crystals have been found.

Southeast Treasure Hunters describes a number of fee dig sites in the area, including "Gold and Gem Grubbin" located NW of Graves where gold, sapphires, rubies, emeralds amethyst, and topaz can reportedly be found; and Hogg Mine in La Grange, located SW of Graves where star rose quartz, aquamarine, rare beryl and tourmaline can reportedly be found.

THE LURE AND LORE OF ROCKS: BANDED RHYOLITE

BY KRISTIN LOLMAUGH

Rhyolite was named "streaming rock" because of its beautiful bands, bubbles and crystal-rich layers that form as lava flows onto the surface of stone and moves forward. Rhyolite can look very different, depending on how it erupts. Its colors vary from light gray, pink, yellowish, cream, mauve, tan to medium brown, light to brick-red; mottled or banded patterns are relatively common.



Photos by Kristin Lolmaugh



Source: Sands of Time, Mark Breithaupt,
www.desertrockcreations.com

Because of its varied formational traits it represents change, variety, and progress. It sparks creativity in individuals who are ready to move forward and make things happen in their life. It allows us to reach out and beyond our capabilities of what we think we can achieve by helping us to break through the mental barriers.



Rhyolite is used for meditation, progression in life, focusing on the present moment and resolving issues not yet complete.

During a New Mexico rock hunting trip, my sister and I drove over the mountains to the little town of Hillsboro where we stayed at a bed and breakfast. After a fabulous breakfast, we went to the local rock shop and showed our findings to the owner, Ted. He explained that most of what we had could be considered Leaverite (as in, leave it right where you found it). He recommended that we walk through Percha Creek. For the rest of that day we followed the river, stopping to rock hunt whenever we found an opening along the road. We found some wonderful Banded Rhyolite. The Banded Rhyolite looks dusty or sandy in its natural state, making you think it will crumble when you work on it. However, appearances are deceiving – it works up to a beautiful shine.

FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS OF AMERICA (THE MOCKS) Ages 10-15

Next Meeting Date: February 11, 2012 **Time:** 7:45 - 9:00 pm

Location: Sunroom Cafeteria, Rockville Senior Center

At the January 14th meeting activities related to the Fossils badge. We discussed the origins of paleontology and how human theories and ideas have changed over time. We learned how radiometric dating works and talked about the gathering of data and deductive reasoning that has allowed us to piece together the puzzle that is the evolution of our planet. We then did a model of the geometric time scale using a piece of string with a scale of 1 inch = 1 million years. Special thanks to Trevor who trekked out into the woods, in the rain (the MOCKS are made of sturdy stuff) to show the group where the starting point was using a flashlight. We talked briefly about the key aspects of each era, period and epoch. Part 2 of this topic will take be covered in March, when we will discuss fossils in greater detail.

The February 11th Meeting SHOW PREP: With our annual show fast approaching (March 16th and 17th) we need to do some prep work. February's meeting will be a display workshop and review of what we need to know for the "special effects" touch table. Our two-time 1st place award winner for displays, Ryan Gunnison, will lead the display workshop.

For more information on the Future Rockhounds of America program, please contact Holly McNeil at fra_advisor@glmsmc.com or 301-605-7179.

Displays

If you plan to do a display you need to sign up, if you have not already done so. February's FRA meeting is your chance to work on your display or get help with organizing and designing it so bring in your specimens. We will have a sample "case" that is the same size as those provided at the show so you can see what your display will look like. Reminder – the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners receive a monetary award (being increased this year!) and everyone who enters a display receives a \$10 certificate to spend at the show.

THE LILLIAN TURNER JUNIOR AWARDS

These awards come via the generosity of Lillian Turner, a benefactor who was keen on promoting interest in rocks, minerals, and lapidary arts to youth of the community, and her surviving son, Stephen. The best (1st Place) junior exhibit in the show will be given the Lillian Turner Award. Since 2011, the award has been a \$100 cash award plus ribbon. (This was previously a \$100 savings bond, but was modified by the GLMSMC BOD in 2011 to be a cash award.) In 2011, the GLMSMC Board also initiated the awarding of cash prizes for 2nd Place award at \$50 and 3rd Place award at \$25 to Juniors who exhibit at the Show. Now, we are excited to announce that Stephen Turner made an additional contribution to the Lillian Turner Fund during the past year, which should allow us to increase the award amounts for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place, and provide the option to give a monetary award to 1 or 2 other cases, if also judged to be outstanding. An announcement of the specific monetary value of the awards will be made at the February meeting. We are very grateful to the

Turner Family for their contributions to our Society to further support youth interest in rocks, minerals, and lapidary arts.

To be competitive for these awards, you must be age 17 or younger and the display should be substantially your own work. If you have won previously, the case must be substantially different from the previous entry.

Criteria for judging are:

1. Overall presentation
2. Short paragraph (3-4 sentences) on your reason for exhibiting your particular case or theme, why this is of interest to you
3. Any additional written or graphic information that reinforces knowledge of the specimens or theme of the presentation

Details will be provided in a handout to the MOCKS at the February meeting. Handouts can also be obtained at the February meeting from Holly McNeil or by contacting the Show Chair (Pat Repik-Byrne) at prb.rocks@verizon.net or 301-279-5962.

MINI MINERS Ages 6-9

Next Meeting Date: February 11, 2013

Time: 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Location: Card Room, Rockville Senior Center

In January the Mini Miners learned about how earthquakes happened and the different kinds of faults. There are three kinds of faults. Can you name them? We also made a paper model which demonstrates how the Earth's crust moves along a fault line. The kids also examined what a rock looks like from a fault line.

At the next meeting on February 11th we will continue to discuss the movement of the Earth's crust and be making models out of clay. Please call Linda Smith at 301-530-5007 if you have any questions.

How Do You Know?

At the January meeting, as usual before the meeting and during the breaks, folks wandered around to view the material people had brought in for display.

This time, Don Graves brought in the specimen pictured here. Of course, everyone wanted to know what it was and all Don could tell them was he had found it in the Northeast Branch in Prince Georges County.

Photos by Kristin Lolmaugh





I found what came next to be very fascinating. Various groups came up to examine it – feeling how heavy it is, testing whether or not it is magnetic, and poking their fingers in the holes. Theories were put forth on the age of the specimen and on what caused the holes (water erosion, footprints, etc.). They asked if it could be a fossil or could it just be debris from a modern age construction site.

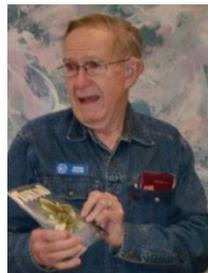
No definitive conclusion was reached, but all seem to enjoy the process and it occurred to me that this seems to be the core of our club – a quest for understanding. I also wondered what we can do

as a club to increase our knowledge on how to identify specimens.

SHOW TABLE: January 2013

Thanks to those who bring items for sharing at the meetings.

Exhibitor	Specimen (s)	Locality
Jeff Cessna	Calcite Calcite, Sphalerite, Willemite, Zincite	Unknown Sterling Hill, NJ
Gerald Elgert	Horn Coral	Pennsylvania Swopes RT
Kristin Lolmaugh	Kyanite	Willis Mountain, VA
Gary Leaman	Apophyllite Double Terminated	Unknown – Flea Market
Diane Leaman	Green Fluorite	Unknown – Flea Market
Andy B	Petrified Wood Belt Buckle	Self-Collected Out West
Wendell Mohr	Pyritohedron Model March 1948 R&M Magazine	
Boe Brosius	Rutile – Magnetite Smoky Quartz Verdelite (Tourmaline) Various Agates, Jaspers, Unakite, Rhodonite	Unknown
Nancy Shinowara	Blue Fluorite Blue Fluorite & Galena Specimen Lepidolite Cab	New Mexico Blanchard Mine, NM Hardes Mine, Dixon, NM
George Durland	Gypsum Gypsum Gypsum	St. Mary's County, MD Pisco, Peru Watkins Glen, NY
Andy Muir	Assorted Spheres	Various
Rod Towers	Fluorite & Quartz with Inclusions	
Gary Letcher	Rutile	Northwest Branch, MD
Conrad Smith	Almandine	Northwest Branch, MD
Linda Smith	Staurolite	Northwest Branch, MD



Photos by Kristin Lolmaugh



WEBSITES OF INTEREST

By Wendell Mohr

Discovering Fossils, at <http://www.discoveringfossils.co.uk/>, is an English site by Roy Shepherd. Although there are a lot of commercial aspects including guided trips and sale items, none of which are endorsed here, there are many educational items. Included are about 28 Fossil locations of Great Britain, an I.D. service, useful links, and the one I liked most, "Resources", an excellent collection of 16 topics.

Chris's Mineral Collecting Page, at <http://www.njminerals.org/index.html>, is by Chris Thorsten. Largely centered on the Ogdensburg and Franklin sites and fluorescent minerals and their pictures, there are also subjects about identification, micromounting how-to and micromount collecting, and disappearing sites. There are many ubiquitous links. I found the commentaries about the ever-present changes in ability for amateurs to collect at quarries and other sites to be insightful.

Flint, at <http://geology.com/rocks/flint.shtml>, is a nice treatise about the subject, well-illustrated. The site leads one through what flint is, its use for stone tools, some historic flint quarries, (see separate sites at <http://www.flintridgeohio.org/> and <http://www.nps.gov/alfl/index.htm>), use as a fire source striking steel with it, and use as a gemstone.



*Pyrite Ammonite (Echioceras)
from Charmouth, England
Photo From Website*



*Alibates Texas Flint Photo:
National Park Service*

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 10, 2013 – Copper Cuff – Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 9 am to 5 pm with a lunch break; PLG workshop, 169 Defense Highway (lower level in back), Annapolis, MD. Students will make one cuff bracelet. Students will work on jeweler's saw skills, soldering, riveting and finishing techniques. Some silversmithing experience is helpful but not required. Students will create their own designs. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej, at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

FEBRUARY 16, 2013 – 23rd Annual Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show sponsored by the Southern Maryland Rock & Mineral Club. The Show Place, Marlboro, MD. For more information, visit www.smrmc.org.

FEBRUARY 17, 2013 – Brooch with Pin Back – Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 9 am to 5 pm with a lunch break; PLG workshop, 169 Defense Highway (lower level in back), Annapolis, MD. Some silversmithing experience is helpful but not required. Students will make 1 brooch with or without a gemstone. Students will fabricate from sheet silver and wire all working parts. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

FEBRUARY 20, 2013 – Stone Sculpture; 10 sessions; ages 16 and up: Basic Instruction in the use of stone tools and the types of stones. Learn to hammer, chisel, sand and finish. Furnish your own tools, supplies and stone. Necessary tools and materials will be discussed at the first class. Bring gloves and safety glasses or goggles

"These gems have life in them." The Jewelry Collection at the Maryland Historical Society

This agate and silver link bracelet is part of the Bonaparte Collection. On Thursday, March 7th at 6 pm, Chief Curator Alexandra Deutsch will tell the story of Baltimore's most intriguing 19th Century woman, Elizabeth Patterson Bonaparte, through her jewels.



Although we do not know who in Betsy's family owned this bracelet, it would have been the height of fashion in the 1850s and 1860s. When Queen Victoria purchased Balmoral Castle in 1848, proclaiming her love of the Scottish countryside, designers followed her cue and created Celtic-style jewelry like this example. The bracelet's charm holds a lock of blonde hair which may have belonged to donor Ellen Channing Day.

This event is part of the Francis Scott Key Lecture Series held at 201 West Monument St, Baltimore, MD 21201. Tickets are \$40. For more information, visit <https://www.mdhs.org/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=74>.

to first class for hands on experience. <https://recweb.montgomerycountymd.gov/Activities/ActivitiesDetails.asp?aid=41,181>

FEBRUARY 23-24, 2013 – Innovative Bead Expo of 2013 will be held at the Ten Oaks Ballroom and Conference Center in Clarksville on. Check out http://www.innovativebeadsexpo.com/show_details.php?id=193&link=attend for more information and to get a \$1 off admission coupon.

FEBRUARY 23, 2013 - Enameling on PMC Back – Patuxent Lapidary Guild; register by February 11; 9 am to 5 pm with a lunch break; PLG workshop, 169 Defense Highway (lower level in back), Annapolis, MD. Learn how to create unique jewelry with Precious Metal Clay and enamels. You may bring previously crafted PMC items to this class for enameling. If you have your own PMC tools and would like to bring them for your personal use, you may. We will cover 1-color enamel and multiple color enamel on PMC. Enamel will be applied using a torch and kiln. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej, at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

FEBRUARY 24, 2013 – Filigree Earrings – Patuxent Lapidary Guild; register by February 5; 9am to 5pm with a lunch break; PLG workshop, 169 Defense Highway (lower level in back), Annapolis, MD. Silversmithing experience is helpful but not required. Students will make 1 pair of filigree earrings. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej, at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

MARCH 2, 2013 – Rubber and Aluminum Bracelets – Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 1 to 5pm; the home workshop of Ena-Laurie Kearns (directions provided upon registration). Use inexpensive materials to create two fun and comfortable bracelets! These weaves are a bit complex, so some experience with chain maille is encouraged but not required. Each item will be made using various colors of non-latex rubber o-rings and aluminum rings, and several color choices will be available for each pattern. To register for this class: Email the instructor, Ellie Barna, at ecbarna@verizon.net.

MARCH 2-3, 2013 – Silversmithing: Stone Cuff Bracelet with a Hand Made Bezel – Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 9 am to 5 pm with a lunch break; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Students will make 1 bracelet set with a stone. Students may bring personal tools if desired. An assortment of cabochons will be included to choose from. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej, at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

MARCH 2-3, 2013 – 50th Annual Earth Science Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Delaware Mineralogical Society; Delaware Technical & Community College, Newark, DE.

MARCH 3, 2013 – Silversmithing: Capped, Tooth, Claw or Stone – Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 9 am to 5 pm with a lunch break; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Students will make 1 capped item. It can be a sharks tooth (or any other), claw (if legal to have) or a stone (tongue shape or crystal). Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej, at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

MARCH 9 & 23 – Basic Lost-Wax Casting – Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 10 am to 4 pm with a lunch break; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Students will learn the basics of lost-wax casting, including spruing and investing wax patterns; casting, and finishing. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

MARCH 10, 2013 – Silversmithing: Box Clasp – Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 9 am to 5 pm with a lunch break; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Some silversmithing experience is helpful but not required.

AMAZON GOLD

Date: March 15, 2013

Time: 7:30 pm

Location: 1600 M Street, NW,
Washington, DC 20036

Telephone: 202-857-7700

Price: All tickets \$11

Narrated by Academy Award winners Sissy Spacek and Herbie Hancock, *Amazon Gold* (USA/2011/53 min) tells the disturbing account of a clandestine journey deep onto the rain forest. Two war journalists uncover the savage unraveling of the pristine landscape in the pursuit of gold. Guided by a Peruvian environmental activist, the journalists travel along the Madre de Dios River in the Amazon, documenting how uncontrolled illegal mining is turning a place of extraordinary beauty into a hellish wasteland—with global consequences. Discussion with filmmaker **Sarah DuPont**, biologist and activist **Enrique Ortiz**, and journalist **Donovan Webster** follows.

Students will make 1 silver box clasp. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

MARCH 16-17, 2013 – Enameling: Cloisonné – Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 9 am to 5 pm with a lunch break; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Students will make projects on fine silver by kiln firing enamel. Students will learn enameling skills and make 1 or more cloisonné projects. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

MARCH 23-24, 2013 – Silversmithing: Stone Inlay Pendant – Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 9 am to 5 pm with a lunch break; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Students will make 1 inlay pendant. Students will work on jeweler's saw skills, silversmithing, lapidary techniques, and finishing techniques. This is an advanced class and students should already have some silversmithing and lapidary experience to take this class. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

MARCH 23-24, 2013 – 44th Annual Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club; Athens Township Volunteer Fire Hall, Sayre, PA.

MARCH 24, 2013 – Half Persian 4-in-1 – Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 1 to 5 pm; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Students will make 1 inlay pendant. Half Persian is one of the most fascinating chain maille weaves, giving the appearance of braided rings. The weave is considered advanced and difficult because of the start, but once started it is rather easy. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

MAY 3-4, 2013 – Atlantic Micromounters' Conference – The Congressional Schools, 3229 Sleepy Hollow Road, Falls Church, VA.

EFMLS WORKSHOPS AT WILDACRES

by Steve Weinberger

We've just had the dates for the two EFMLS 2013 Workshops at Wildacres confirmed for us.

Session #1 will be held from April 8 - 14 with Bob Jones, Sr. Editor of *Rock & Gem Magazine* confirmed as the speaker.

Session #2 will be held from September 2 - 8. As of this writing, the Speaker in Residence has not yet been confirmed.

Classes for both sessions will be available next month and registration will commence on January 1, 2013. We suggest that you register early as it's likely that both sessions will sell out quickly.

Tuition for 2013 will be \$380 per person.

For more information, visit <http://www.amfed.org/efmls>

SAFETY MATTERS – ONCE IS NOT ENOUGH

BY ELLERY BOROW, EFMLS SAFETY CHAIR

Once is not enough when it comes to safety matters. Most of the messages of safety must be mentioned repeatedly for most folks to take note of them.

It is common for me to explain and expound on matters of safety at any and every opportunity. The subject of hearing is near and dear to me because I enjoy listening to the world around me... and my hearing makes that listening possible. A friend recently mentioned that they have already lost a portion of their hearing and so why bother with hearing protection? Well, realizing this as an opportunity to speak about one of my favorite subjects, I responded with glee.

Hearing loss generally progresses slowly over time. One may easily reduce the degree of additional loss by inhibiting the amount of extraneous or excessive sound entering ones ears. One may protect what hearing one has by wearing some type of muffling device – ear plugs, ear valves, ear muffs and so on. Now, at any point in the hearing loss process one can start using hearing protection and, by that simple action, protect what hearing they have. Hearing loss is not a foregone conclusion – one can protect what hearing they still have and reduce further damage by wearing protection. Keeping what remains of one's hearing can be as simple as wearing protection – and yes I am

repeating myself, I should refer you to the title of this article.

There have been instances when folks mentioned that wearing ear protection was uncomfortable. One of the keys to remedying uncomfortable or ineffective protective equipment is making sure one is using the right size equipment. Ear plugs, for instance, come in different sizes for different size ear canals. Some plugs come on short strings to drape around the neck when not being utilized as hearing protection. Some plugs come fitted on a head-band to secure the ear plugs in place. Most ear plugs are more effective if they are properly inserted in the ears. By all means, please read and follow the directions that come with your hearing protection equipment in order to get the most protection value from the money spent.

Eyeglass wearers often have problems wearing ear muff type protectors. The eyeglass temple pieces often prevent a good sound seal

of the muff to the ear. There are, however, muffs designed for eyeglass wearers. In other words, to be most effective and comfortable the proper ear protection must be worn. When in doubt about a decibel reduction rating for the hearing protectors or proper usage instruction, please read the directions.

I'm not sure the message I offered to my friend about hearing loss sank in. But I am going to keep offering it. I really don't want sound advice falling on deaf ears. If I may respectfully suggest, please re-read that last line – it's a good one.

For this month's safety refresher, please see Jim Doran's great article and comments on safety training in the February 2010 issue of the *EFMLS News*. If you do not happen to have the issue, it is available at <http://www.amfed.org/efmls>. Click on the "Newsletter" tab and then download the issue. It will arrive as a pdf file.

ANNUAL GEM- LAPIDARY-MINERAL-FOSSIL SHOW

BY PAT REPIK-BYRNE

Our annual Gem-Lapidary-Mineral-Fossil Show will be held this year at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds on March 16 & 17. The GLMSMC Show is the major yearly activity of our club and is *completely* run by Club volunteers. Everyone needs to pitch in to make it a success. As was initiated last year, there is a shortened timeframe: Saturday, March 16 from 10 am -6 pm; Sunday March 17 from 11 am-5 pm (later start time on Sunday). Mark Dahlman, Upstairs/Dealers Chair, has finalized contracts with 22 dealers (our maximum number).

Plan **NOW** to exhibit. Pat Repik-Byrne, Show Chair/Exhibits Chair, wants to have your commitment EARLY. We already have applications for 10 exhibits, including 4 Junior exhibits, and can accommodate approximately 35 more. Attendees are always interested in the showcases, whether they highlight specimens you've collected on field trips or minerals or items of particular interest to you (some examples may be: crystals, specimens having unusual shapes or properties, fluorescents, various forms of a particular mineral, various stones or minerals from a particular locality, lapidary or other items made from stones/minerals, geology, volcanoes, impact craters, etc. etc.). Folks attending the Show would love to see and share your interests. YOU can do it! If you haven't displayed previously, no problem - everyone is a beginner at some time. If you feel you don't have enough items for an exhibit, mention this at the meeting and perhaps we can pair up people for a shared exhibit. Only a month and a half left for preparing neat labels, nice liners, risers, and other case features to highlight your exhibit! Fill out an Exhibitor Application form and get it to Pat by February 15. Use one form for each case.

Demonstrations are being finalized by Bob Irby and Pat. As before, we expect to have flint-knapping, gem faceting, beading and jewelry-making, micromounts, Calvert Marine Museum displays and fossil identification, and much more. Have fun and gain a sense of accomplishment by fashioning and polishing

a cabochon to keep! See the eye-popping fluorescent exhibits and fascinating demonstrations in the “UV-Fluorescent Tent.” More demonstrators are needed, so please contact Bob or Pat and complete the Demonstrator Application Form and return by February 15.

Most importantly, we have a GREAT NEED for VOLUNTEERS to work at the Show, starting with Set-Up on Friday (March 15), ending with Take-Down on Sunday (March 17), and at all stations in between on Saturday and Sunday - Kids Activities (Welcome/Give-Away Area, Touch Table, Mini-Mine, Junior Quiz), Admissions Table, Hospitality, Raffle, and Lapidary Shop (teaching grinding/polishing, as well as doing sign-ups and un-dopping). Sign-up sheets will be passed around at the meeting and to those with e-mail, or you can contact Pat at 301-279-5962 or prb.rocks@verizon.net to get the job(s) you prefer. **Additional note:** Everyone who volunteers at the Show gets a bonus – FREE ADMISSION. Those NOT volunteering/exhibiting/demonstrating must pay the regular admission price. Another incentive to get onto the volunteers list!

Show fliers and posters are available from George Durland to help publicize the show. Pick up your copies at the February meeting.

See you at the Show!

VOLUNTEER DUTIES AT THE SHOW	
Children’s Activities	<p>Welcome Area/Give-Away – Greet & welcome; hand each child a cloth bag; inform them they can take one specimen from any of the bins; once they choose their stone put it in a plastic baggies with its pre-printed label; fill or replace specimen & labels as they are depleted; invite the child to visit the touch table & mini-mine</p> <p>Touch Table – all touch table specimen are organized and labeled; invite guest to touch; show special or interesting properties; invite guest to mini-mine and junior quiz</p> <p>Mini-Mine – invite child to dig through the sand & select any one specimen; once they choose it, put it in a plastic baggies; invite older kids to take the junior quiz</p> <p>Junior Quiz – give the junior a clipboard, quiz & pencil; answers to be found on exhibits indicated with a star; when junior returns, cross check answers with answer key provided; if all correct, let them choose from the bin with larger prizes, if not correct, suggest what to do to correct; mention the fluorescent tent & other exhibits they might be interested in</p>
Set-Up Activities	<p>Friday (day before Show) begin at 9:00 am (any help throughout day for any length of time would be greatly appreciated); unload truck; place tables according to master plan on both 1st Floor Exhibits/Demonstration areas and 2nd Floor Dealer area (vendor sets up tables); run electrical lines to Exhibits, Shop, Demonstration and Dealer areas; 1st Floor - Skirt fronts and cover tops of tables with blue plastic (tops left uncovered only where exhibit cases sit); set up exhibit cases and lights, “tent” for fluorescents, and Shop area; put up signage (indoors and outdoors); recommend bringing work gloves</p>
Attendance/Ticket Sales	<p>Hand out admission tickets to each attendee (including children); tickets are good for same day re-admission; keep a tally of the total</p>

	number of attendees; keep a tally of the number of attendees by Category (full price admissions - \$6/discounted admissions - \$5/free admissions – Children under 12, Scouts in uniform, and certain other non-paying attendees); encourage each attendee to fill out door prize slip; explain ticket prices; keep coupon – note on it the number of admissions it covered; take money and give out change (checks are accepted); approximately once per hour when Treasurer arrives count all \$20 and higher bills; keep tally; give those large bills to Treasurer for deposit at bank; Sunday afternoon, reimburse Dealers \$10 cash for each \$10 discount coupon given to them by Exhibitors and Demonstrators
Lapidary Shop	Make pre-forms, stones/dopsticks (in advance of Show); sign-in; ensure height requirement is met; issue safety goggles and protective clothing; manage appointments; instruct grinding & polishing techniques (4 machines); un-dop finished piece
Hospitality	Draw door prize winners and post names (1 adult and 1 child per hour); winners must be present that day to pick up prize; bring winners to door prize case and give them their selected winnings (mineral, fossil, or jewelry); one volunteer designated to do this during shift; empty door prize ticket container every hour after winners are selected (tickets are kept and used for next year’s show announcements); answer general questions (about our Club, location of dealers, fluorescent tent display, food, restrooms, etc.); pass out brochures (about GLMSMC and other clubs, shows, etc.)
Raffle	Items for raffle will be collected by volunteer early on Saturday morning; 1 st volunteer shift on Saturday will arrange collected items on the 3 shelves of case (1 shelf = 1 lot, so there are 3 lots to choose from for raffle chances); stay with raffle prizes, many are of high value; sell tickets (\$1/chance; or 6 chances for \$5); buyers can designate tickets for just one lot/shelf or spread tickets among lots/shelves as they wish; raffle will be held at 4 pm on Sunday; winners do not need to be present.
Take-Down Activities	Sunday 5 pm – Finish (Lots of help needed to get this done quickly); take down electrical wiring; disassemble exhibit cases and stack them (make sure insides of cases are cleared of tape; keep all parts of each case together (cases & fronts); clean off lapidary equipment and prepare for storage; unskirt tables and table tops, roll up plastic for storage; take down folding tables and stack; take down interior and exterior signage; load Show items into storage truck (exhibit cases, plastic liners, wiring, lapidary equipment, kids table specimens/ material, etc.); sweep floors; take out trash

EXHIBIT SPACE APPLICATION FORM

The Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Montgomery County, Maryland, Inc.
P.O. Box 444, Gaithersburg, MD 20884 – 0444

Request for Exhibitor Space in the 49th Annual Gem and Mineral Show to be held at The Montgomery County Fairgrounds, 16 Chestnut Street, Gaithersburg, Maryland. Saturday, March 16, 2013, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.; Sunday, March 17, 2013, 11:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Please Print or Type

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____ Phone: (____) _____

E-mail: _____

My Exhibit will be: (Please enter the display title and description/type of display on the following lines)

Title: _____

Type of display: _____

(For example, if a fluorescent display is desired, enter: 'Fluorescent display' and the wavelength(s) desired, such as SW, MW, LW, or SW/LW. An example for a fluorescent display might be: Title: "Worldwide Fluorites," Type: fluorescent minerals, LW)

() I will furnish my own case. Type and size: _____

() I would like a case furnished. Upright cases only. Cases are 2' deep X 2' high X 4' wide, exterior dimensions. Bottom liners should be no more than 23" X 47" and allowance should also be made for reduced side liners.

Set up of cases is Friday, March 15, 2013 from 3:00 pm - 9:00 pm. Cases are to remain on display on Saturday, March 16 and Sunday, March 17. Cases may be taken down no sooner than 5:00 pm on Sunday, March 17 and should be removed as quickly as possible for timely take down.

In consideration of the opportunity to exhibit afforded me by the Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Montgomery County, MD, Inc., I agree that the Society is neither responsible nor liable for any loss or damage sustained by me or by anyone else as a result of my exhibit. I further agree to save said Society harmless from any claims arising from my participation in the show to be held March 16 - 17, 2013. I understand that all risks are my own and that the Society has no insurance that applies to my exhibit or to me. The Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Montgomery County, MD will provide security during the show.

(Signature of Exhibitor)

(Date)

Please return this form ASAP, but no later than February 15, 2013 to:
Pat Repik-Byrne, 9 Starlight Ct., Potomac, MD, 20854, Ph. (301)279--5962, Email: prb.rocks@verizon.net

Note: If you are Demonstrating, you must fill out a separate DEMONSTRATOR APPLICATION FORM

DEMONSTRATOR APPLICATION FORM

The Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Montgomery County, Maryland, Inc.
P.O. Box 444, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20884-0444

Request for Demonstration Space in the 49th Annual Gem and Mineral Show to be held at The Montgomery County Fairgrounds, 16 Chestnut Street, Gaithersburg, Maryland. Saturday, March 16, 2013, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm; Sunday, March 17, 2013, 11:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Please Print or Type

Group Name (if applicable): _____

Representative or Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: (____) _____

E-mail: _____

My Demonstration Will Be: (Please enter the title and type of demonstration on the following lines)

Title: _____

Type of Demonstration: _____

Number of 8-foot tables required: _____ If required space is the same as last year, please check here: _____

Set up of demonstration may be Friday, March 15, 2013 from 3:00 pm until 9:00 pm or Saturday, March 16 from 8:00 to 9:30 am. Demonstration is to take place on Saturday, March 16 and Sunday, March 17 unless special arrangements are made with Demonstrations Chairman. Demonstration is to end no sooner than 5:00 pm on Sunday, March 17.

In consideration of the opportunity to demonstrate afforded me by the Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Montgomery County, MD, Inc., I (We) agree that the Society is neither responsible nor liable for any loss or damage sustained by me (us) or by anyone else as a result of my demonstration. I (We) further agree to save said Society harmless from any claims arising from my (our) participation in the show to be held March 16 and 17, 2013. I (We) understand that all risks are my (our) own and that the Society has no insurance which applies to my (our) exhibit or to me (us). The Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Montgomery County, MD will provide security during the show.

Any Special Requests? _____

↑

Signature of Demonstrator or Representative Date

Please return this form ASAP, but no later than February 15, 2013 to:
Pat Repik-Byrne, 9 Starlight Court, Potomac, MD 20854-2658, Phone: (301) 279-5962; e-mail:
prb.rocks@verizon.net

Note: If you are Exhibiting as well, you must fill out a separate EXHIBITOR APPLICATION FORM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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 Bulletin Editor– Kristin Lolmaugh, 1282 Terrace Lane, Arnold, MD 21012, 410-647-2959

Life Members: Jack Busch, Larry Harrison, Wendell Mohr, and Juan Proaño

Society Address: Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Montgomery County MD., Inc.
 P. O. Box 444, Gaithersburg MD 20884-0444 Web Site: <http://www.glmsmc.com/>
 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 email address – kristinlolmaugh@gmail.com

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Award Winning Bulletin
EFMLS, AFMS



TIME SENSITIVE
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THE ROCKHOUNDER
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 of Montgomery County, MD, Inc.
 Kristin Lolmaugh
 1282 Terrace Lane
 Arnold, MD 21012