



The Rockhounder

February 2016

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.”

NOTE: Please send any Rockhounder submissions for the March issue to Editor Olivia Luzier at editor@glmsmc.com by Thursday, February 25, 2016.

February Speaker Information:

From the Frying Pan into the Fire
Jeff Nagy

Jeff has worked to completely revise and update the *Minerals of the Washington DC Area*, by Lawrence Bernstein. He is an active faceter and has been directly involved in researching old mines. In addition, he has been published in *The Maryland Historical Society Quarterly* about copper mining in the Kentlands. He has also recently been published in *Rocks and Minerals Magazine* in a collaborative article with Fred Parker about gold mining in Maryland. He volunteers at the Montgomery County Historical Society.

His talk “From the Frying Pan into the Fire” will be about Northern Virginia mineralogy.

Gary Leaman, Vice President

Next Regular Meeting:

Date: February 8, 2016

Time: 7:30 PM

Place:
Rockville Senior Center
1150 Carnation Drive
Rockville, MD

Next Board of Directors Meeting:

The Board of Directors will meet 7:30 PM on **Monday, February 15, 2016** at the home of Holly McNeil. Board members are expected to be there. Any member is welcome to attend, but please let Holly know if you plan to attend.

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President's Message

Jonathan G. Harris

I don't recall any of the exhibits at the Locust Grove Nature Center that Saturday in 2001; but a 3X8 slip of paper led me to the 37th Annual Gem Mineral-Fossil Show at the Gaithersburg Fairgrounds.

The show is a lot more than a critical fundraiser for our club—one that enables us to rent rooms, run our programs, and open doors for fieldtrips. It is also a great opportunity to connect with our community – to infuse others with our enthusiasm for earth sciences and lapidary arts and bring in new members and friends.

For many of us it is also a chance to show others the wonders of our collections in exhibits; after all does a crystal hidden in a dark cabinet reflect any light? And if you want to expand your collection beyond places you can travel—you can visit the friendly dealers on the upper floor. The show does not run itself. It requires the dedicated work of many members to set up, staff stations, and clean-up. We need to plan ahead so we know what activities we can staff, so this February sign up for a time slot or two and be part of a fun group of people spreading the joys of our hobbies.

In the meantime, you can visit <http://www.mindat.org/gm/2001> to see pictures of a gorgeous mineral that has been in the news recently.

GLMSMC Regular Meeting Minutes for January 11, 2016

Jeff Cessna

The January 11, 2016 meeting was called to order by President Jonathan Harris at approximately 7:45 pm. There were approximately 41 people (34 adults, 7 juniors) in attendance. It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2016 regular meeting.

FRA: Mark Dahlman presented 2 out of 6 earned Special Effects badges. Recipients have learned about chatoyance, asterism, and phosphorescence among other mineral special properties. More will be presented in following months. Holly McNeil gave a program on preparing showcases.

Treasurer: Past treasurer Holly McNeil provided club budget records for review. We are in appropriate shape for a non-profit. Money is reserved for trailer replacement. The club donated \$2000 to the Smithsonian and \$300 to James Madison University.

Show: Holly McNeil thanked those who have signed up to volunteer with special mention of Barb Burr, who had signed up for the most positions. A showcase of colored spheres from the collection of Andy Muir will be prepared. The backdrop will be produced using written comments from

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GLMSMC Regular Meeting Minutes for January 11, 2016

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those who knew him. Contact Holly soon to be included. Holly gave brief descriptions of the simple tasks required of volunteers for Admissions Table and Kid's Table. More will be discussed next month.

Field Trips: New Field Trip Chair Dave Fryauff has been busy reinforcing contact with other local clubs to encourage coordinated trip planning. Dave thanked former chair Jonathan Harris. Jonathan ran a successful trip to JMU. The next planned trip is the Super Dig at the Sterling Hill Mine, Ogdensburg, NJ in April. This will be a club sanctioned trip, to allow required insurance coverage.

EFML Liaison: Wendell Mohr discussed the upcoming Rockville Science Day on 24 April. He thanked past presenters and noted the opportunity for anyone interested to represent the club.

Membership: It was MSP to accept the family membership application of Kathy Thompson and Ruben Montanez.

Program: Chris Luzier introduced the speaker for the evening, Dr. Bretton Kent. Dr. Kent is the author of *Fossil Sharks of the Chesapeake Bay Region* on many a member's bookshelf. He presented "The Rise and Fall of the Neogene Giant Sharks". Dr. Kent began by noting his unenviable position of being paid to walk on the beach. He continued by discussing the Neogene Polytaxic Maximum (NPM) responsible for the great number of sharks, and other species, present at the time. There are fossil records of at least 38 different species, probably missing another 1/3 that could be present, compared to 28 species in the region today. Using the False Mako Shark, *Paratodus benedeni*, and others as examples, Dr. Kent discussed what has been studied of the feeding habits and body sizes of sharks based in large part on the design of their teeth. Many of the large bone-crushing sharks have become extinct as their abundance of prey disappeared at the end of the NPM. We are left with sharks with teeth adapted to feeding on available prey, including the predicted future super predator, the modern Tiger Shark, with the most evolved tooth. Dr. Kent answered many question from an interested audience and concluded with a story about two experienced beach collectors who were distracted by swans as they walked, which lead to his find of a massive tooth within 2.5 feet of their footsteps. Ouch. Thanks, Dr. Kent.

The Show Table and door prizes were administered by Joel Rosen.

Adjournment: It was M/S/P to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 PM.

Jeff Cessna, Secretary.



GLMSMC Board Meeting Minutes for January 18, 2016

Jeff Cessna

Board Members present: Doug Baum, Jeff Cessna, Jonathan Harris, Chris Luzier, Holly McNeil, Wendell Mohr, Joel Rosen, and Dave Tiktinsky. Board Members not present: Dave Fryauff, Gary Leaman. President Jonathan Harris called the January 18, 2016 meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

Treasurer: The currently vacant treasurer position was discussed. Club bylaws were consulted. A special election will be held. One month notice of candidate applies to regular election. Chris Luzier has suggested a qualified candidate who is not currently a member. It was MSP for former treasurer Holly McNeil to continue duties in the interim and for the board to nominate of Tom Dushel, pending election to membership and payment of dues. Before the end of her term Holly pre-paid upcoming show expenses. Holly suggested the next treasurer audit the 2015 records. The 2014 audit is complete, but report must be published in newsletter.

President: The club has a fair amount of material that has been donated and must be sold. Six to seven boxes and several individual, more desirable, items will be sold in silent auctions at upcoming meetings. Saw coolant additive will be reserved for club use cutting cabochons. Management of club documentation in a central repository was discussed.

EFMLS Liaison: Holly McNeil submitted the officer information and paid dues to EFMLS. The availability of club support for member Wildacres attendance in return for a presentation or newsletter article should be publicized. Nominations for Each One Teach One and Rockhounder of the Year are needed.

Website: Many thanks go to Mark Dahlman for updating the information on the club website. Upkeep of the website was discussed. Jonathan Harris will provide credit card information to website host as replacement of current card.

Show: Dave Tiktinsky will investigate the meaning of the contract language that we pay for table "breakdown." Wendell Mohr stated we have several remaining show door prizes although many have been passed over more than once. Dave will approach dealers regarding door prizes and raffle prizes. Doug Baum is contacting event calendars and nearby clubs. Early contact is necessary for some lists. Holly contacted libraries regarding posting. Doug will investigate social media. Holly transcribed door prize entry forms. Dave presented ideas to update 2016 form and will pursue. Doug would collate collected "where did you hear" responses. Dave presented draft postcard and identified postcard service at lower rate than already budgeted. Dave will send emails including an early, brief, save-the-date email. Pre-forms are being produced by Andy Celmer, Chris Luzier, Reed Owens, Dave Fryauff,

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GLMSMC Board Meeting Minutes for January 18, 2016

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Francis Becker, Jeff Cessna, and Elmer Lantz. Efforts should continue during year. Future donated equipment may be considered for this use. Show tasks were assigned as in previous shows. Chris will purchase tape. Jeff Cessna will bring lights for sandwich board. Joel noted case lock will be used without exception. Junior case judges are Holly McNeil, Dave Tiktinsky, and Chris Luzier. The board discussed the possibility of hosting 2017 EFMLS meeting. Chris will continue to investigate. BOD should vote soon.

Membership: Doug Baum will distribute draft roster by the end of the week. Doug will provide new member information to newsletter editor.

Other: Holly McNeil will serve as secretary for next BOD meeting. Thanks, Holly. Joel will provide door prize photos for inclusion in newsletter before meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 PM.

Jeff Cessna, Secretary.

Future Rockhounds of America (The MOCKS) Ages 10-15

Mark Dahlman

Next Meeting Date: February 8, 2016

Meeting Time: 7:45-9:00pm

Meeting Location: Sunroom Cafeteria at the Rockville Senior Center

January 11th Meeting:

A big thank you goes to Mrs. Holly McNeil for showing us how to put together an exhibit, and what expect while volunteering at our upcoming show. It's important for MOCKS to help out at the show by signing up for time at the touch table and mini mine. FRA families are encouraged to help our club with this once-a-year fund-raising activity. It's the best show around because of our volunteers. Please contact Mrs. McNeil (show_education_chair@glmsmc.com) to sign-up to help at the show, and to put an exhibit in the show. Remember there are big prizes for the best junior display!

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Future Rockhounds of America (The MOCKS) Ages 10-15

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February 8th Meeting:

We will be awarding the Special Effects badge to the FRA members who weren't at our last meeting. We'll also be working on our group exhibit, and taking home new specimens.

Bring a friend if you'd like - see you there!

For more information on the Future Rockhounds of America program, please contact Mark Dahlman at <fra_advisor@glmsmc.com> or 301-428-0455.

FYI - Old and New

Chris Luzier

There is a good deal of information that I wanted to make sure you all knew that were older housekeeping issues and upcoming events and info as well. Many of them are unrelated so I figured this would be the best way to lay them out all at once. First off, we have a large library of items that the GLMSMC owns and has had little recent interest in these materials. That being said, we would like to offer to our members, any of the materials in the library. The titles and materials are listed in our website and please let us know if you are interested in any of them.

There will also be another silent auction at our upcoming meeting, with a variety of items, so bring your checkbook! It is always a great way to pick up new specimens at great prices. We also have printed in this issue, the announcement of the opening of the Spring and Fall Wildacres sessions. There are loads of different classes and instructors and what is even better, we are once again offering TWO, \$390.00 scholarships to either session! In return, we would just want you to do a short presentation or article on your experience at Wildacres. It is a wonderful program that we want to support by putting GLMSMC resources behind a very unique vacation. Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity!!!



Show Table for January 11, 2016

Jeff Cessna-	Bustamite Crystals, Clinohedrite	-Franklin, NJ
" "	Calcite & Unknown	-Langban, Sweden
" "	Grandiorite	-Madison Co., VA
Frances Becker-	Shells	-Chesapeake Bay, MD
Doug Baum-	Prehnite	-Paterson, NJ
Gerald Elgert-	Tempskya Fern (Self-Collected)	-Muirkirk, MD
Wendell Mohr-	Canadian Sabre Tooth Cat Coin	-Canada Mint
Jonathan Harris-	Opal(Bright FL Green)	-Zacatecas, Mexico
Ken Reynolds-	Fluorescent Wollastonites	-Sterling Hill, NJ
Donald Greaves-	Unknown(Tiny Golden Plates)	-Thrift Store Purchase
Chuck Mason-	Hell's Canyon Agate	-Hell's Canyon, SD
Joel Rosen-	Opal var. Hyalite	-Spruce Pine, NC
Dave Fryauff-	Heulandite, Celandite	-Aurangabad(Bombay), India
Steve Calamuci-	Calcite	-Santa Eulalia, Mexico
" "	Andradite?	-Cornwall Iron Mine, PA
George Durland-	Celestite-Shelly Stone Quarry	-Lime City, OH

Door Prizes

Show Table: Dolomite and Quartz (Mexico)

Donald Greaves

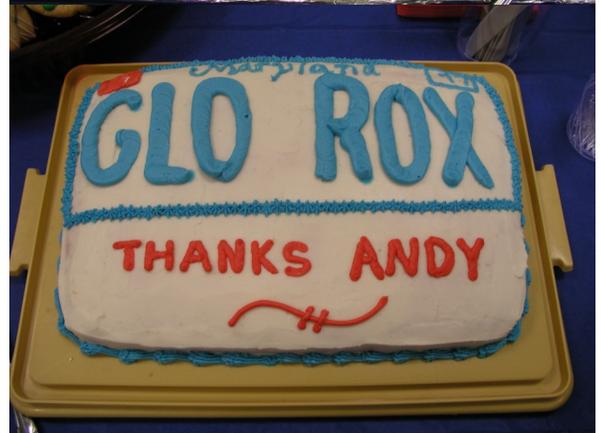
General: Polychrome Jasper

Jo Ann Mohr



Here are some of the delicious delicacies from our December 2015 joint Christmas party with the MSDC group!

A big thank you to Holly McNeil for her amazing baking skills!





The GLMSMC and MSDC groups got a chance to get together for a night of food, fun, and of course, rocks!



More fun at the Christmas party!







WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Wendell C. Mohr

The Meteorite Exchange

Here is a very extensive site featuring information about just about all aspects of meteorites. Lots of educational material and pictures: Craters, finds, hunting, tektites, news, facts, videos, sales, and more. As is customary we do not endorse specific sellers.

Photo Credit
Roger
Weller Cochise
College



<<http://www.meteorite.com/>>



Photograph by
U.S.
National Park
Service

Why Have Volcanoes in the Cascades Been So Quiet Lately?

This site gives you the reason that the Cascades, with 13 major volcanoes, exist, and questions why only Mt. St. Helens has erupted in the 100 years since Mt. Lassen erupted. Volcanic activity of the Cascades seems to be so different from other chains. If there is a tectonic reason, what is it? See a 4000, year history of the Cascades from USGS.

<<http://www.wired.com/2015/05/volcanoes-cascades-quiet-lately/>>

The Nephrite Jade Road: Evolution of Green Nephrite Market.

Authored by Dr. Tao Hsu, Andrew Lucas, Kirk Makepeace and Ms. Nikki Makepeace, this site is another outstanding piece of work by the G.I.A. It covers major sources: Xinjiang China, B.C. Canada, and Siberian Russia. Text and several galleries cover Marketing evolution, multiple exquisite finished pieces, trading and future outlook.

<<http://www.gia.edu/gia-news-research/nephrite-jade-road-evolution-green-nephrite-market>>



Photo Credit Roger Weller Cochise
College



More Items of Interest from the Editor

Olivia Luzier

Here are a few items of interest that I think the club may like. Enjoy!

- Robert Hazen's **Chance vs. Necessity in Mineral Evolution: A New Approach to an Ancient Subject**

Robert Hazen

Staff Scientist, Carnegie Institution for Science, and

Clarence Robinson Professor of Earth Sciences, George Mason University

Friday, February 19, 2016 at 8:00 PM

In the John Wesley Powell Auditorium, adjacent to the Cosmos Club, 2170 Florida Avenue NW, Washington DC 20008. Entrance is through the club gate, the first right-hand entrance on Florida Avenue north of the intersection with Massachusetts Avenue NW. The auditorium entrance is to the left of the gate.

The Cosmos Club is within walking distance of the DuPont Circle Metro stop (Q Street exit), the Connecticut Avenue bus routes (L2, L4), and the Massachusetts Avenue bus routes (N2, N4).

<http://www.philsoc.org/2016Spring/2359abstract.html>

- **Crystal Form Templates**

Betty Thompson of the MSDC sent this out for whoever asked for the crystal form templates at the holiday party and for whoever else might want them. Here is the link to an interesting website on crystal forms.

<http://webmineral.com/help/Forms.shtml#paper>



Think Spring (or Fall) – Think WildAcres!

by Steve Weinberger, WA Committee Chair

An article used with the generous permission of the EFMLS from its February 2016 newsletter.

I don't know what the weather is like where you live, but here in Maryland there sure are signs of winter. Night time temperatures as I write this have been hovering in the upper teens with daytime temps in the upper 20's. What happened to the 70's we had in December?

With all that said, it's time to start thinking about the warmth of spring... and spring means only one thing - another opportunity for you and your club members to take advantage of one of the Eastern Federation Wildacres Workshops!

Our spring session will be held from May 9 - 15 and the very creative Helen Serras-Herman will be our featured speaker. Helen's a delightful and knowledgeable gal who has an amazing talent for unique creating jewelry, carved gems, and wonderful sculptures combing gems and metals. She'll regale us with six talks during the week.

The fall session will be held from September 5 -11 and our featured speaker will be Alfredo Petrov, world traveler and mineral expert. Alfredo too is an excellent speaker and delightful person who will be living on campus with us during the week (as will Helen and her husband Andy).

Think spring (or fall)! — think Wildacres! If you've never been, you're in for a treat. Wildacres is situated on its own private mountain, just off the Blue-Ridge Parkway near Little Switzerland, NC. (just an hour north of Asheville). Housing is in modern motel-type rooms each with private bath. Meals are served family style in the modern dining room and classes are held in well-equipped rooms throughout the campus.

Think spring (or fall)! — think Wildacres! The cost for a week of fun at an EFMLS Wildacres workshop is just \$400 per person. That fee includes room and board plus one of the best views in the Blue Ridge as well as the opportunity to learn a new skill (or refine an old one) from our carefully selected instructors, meet new folks who share common interests with you, and "get away from it all" for the week in an idyllic setting. Just think...no stinky exhaust fumes, honking car or truck horns, and no blaring radios or TV's. What you will hear is the sound of birds chirping, people laughing or engaging in quiet conversation, and/or working on projects in classes. If we're lucky, we may also hear the sound of music from a class held by one of the music groups that also use the facility. (We've had cellists and dulcimer players with us the past few years.)

Think spring (or fall)! — think Wildacres! Make your plans now to fill in an application (see page ___ and join the fun. A list of the classes we're going to have this year can be found on the next three pages.

Want to see what Wildacres is all about? We've got a nifty video program that you can see by logging on to the EFMLS Wildacres information web site (<efmlswildacres.org>. While there, you can also get more information about our program and perhaps get answers to some of your questions. You'll find an registration form there that you can download, fill in and print out as well as photos and a link to



Think Spring (or Fall) – Think WildAcres!

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the Wildacres Retreat website. And you can always contact our Registrar, Director or me by clicking on the contact link on our Wildacres web site (efmls-wildacres.org).

Think spring (or fall)! and plan on having a ball at one or both of the EFMLS Wildacres Workshops.

2014 Audit Letter

November 1, 2015

To the Board of Directors of the Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Montgomery County

I have reviewed the accounting records of the Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Montgomery County (“the Society”) for the year ended December 31, 2014. The review was limited to a testing of the cash receipts and disbursements and how those cash receipts /disbursements were applied to balance sheet, revenue and expense accounts. I believe the cash balances of the Society, along with other balance sheet, revenue and expense accounts, are accurately stated.

Thomas C. Parnell, MBA*
Virginia Beach, Va.

*Formerly employed as a Senior Field Examiner/Auditor for Wachovia Bank.



Upcoming Shows

South Penn Rock Swap & Sale

--SPRING SWAP--

Saturday, May 14, 2016

8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

South Mountain Fairgrounds

West of Arendtsville, PA on Route 234

For GPS, use address:

615 Narrows Road, Biglerville, PA 17307

General admissions: \$1.00/person

Table for Swappers: \$5.00/table

Sponsored by the Central Pennsylvania and
Franklin County Rock & Mineral Clubs

Contact: tsmith1012@comcast.net

If you are planning a trip and want to know what clubs you might be able to visit, it would be worthwhile to visit the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies website. Check out their newsletter archives at <http://www.amfed.org/news/default.htm>.





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Jonathan Harris, 11932 Goya Drive, Potomac, MD 20854-3313, (301-545- 0808)

Vice President – Gary Leaman, 7524 Cinnabar Terrace, Gaithersburg, MD 20879-4577,
(301-963-3702)

Secretary – Jeff Cessna, 12116 Cliftondale Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20904-1941, (301-680-7963)

Treasurer – Holly McNeil, 22 South Duke Street, Rockville, MD, 20850-1014, (301-605-7179)

Field Trip Chairman – Dave Fryauff, 24109 Sugar Cane Lane, Laytonsville MD 20882-4031,
(301-253-1687)

Membership Chairman – Doug Baum, 11205 Golden Meadow Ct, Germantown, MD 20876-1740,
(301-515-4641)

Downstairs Showchair – Holly McNeil, 22 South Duke Street, Rockville, MD, 20850-1014,
(301-605-7179)

Upstairs Showchair – Dave Tiktinsky, 9209 Laurel Oak Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817-1937,
(301-365-2812)

Property Manager – Joel Rosen, 833 Rampart Way, Union Bridge, MD 21791-9325, (410-775-7937)

Immediate Past President – Chris Luzier, 847 Springdale Drive, Millersville, MD, 21108-1436,
(443-995-5363)

EFMLS Liaison – Wendell Mohr, 9509 Emory Grove Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20877-3501,
(301-926-7190)

Bulletin Editor– Olivia Luzier, 847 Springdale Drive, Millersville, MD 21108-1436
(editor@glmsmc.com)

Life Members: Larry Harrison, Wendell Mohr, Juan Proaño, and George Durland

Society Address: Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Montgomery County MD., Inc.
P. O. Box 444, Gaithersburg MD 20884-0444

Website: <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 at editor@glmsmc.com.

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Award Winning Bulletin
EFMLS, AFMS



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FIRST CLASS MAIL**

**The Rockhoulder
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