



# The Rockhounder

December 2020

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 submissions for the January issue of The Rockhounder to Editor Olivia Luzier at [editor@glmsmc.com](mailto:editor@glmsmc.com) by Monday, December 28th, 2020.

## Regular Meeting Announcements

Ken Reynolds, Vice President

### December Speaker Information:

We will not be having our annual holiday party or regular meeting this month, due to COVID-19.

Our next online Zoom meeting will be on January 11, 2021. Our speaker will be Gabriela A. Farfan, Ph.D. Curator of Gems and Minerals Smithsonian Institution.

See you then!

Follow us on Facebook at  
[https://www.facebook.com/  
groups/984241208329511/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/984241208329511/)

### Next Regular Meeting:

We will not be having a regular meeting or our annual holiday party for December this year.  
Our next Zoom meeting will be on January 11, 2021.

### Next Board of Directors Meeting:

We will not be having a Board meeting for December.

### Inside this issue:

Item	Page
Meeting Announcements, Speaker Info	1
President's Message	2
Regular Meeting Minutes	3
BOD Meeting Minutes	4
FRA Meeting Minutes, 2021	6
Membership Dues Message	
Rockhound of the Year: Joel Rosen	7
Virginia Mineral Project Winter Update	8
Rockhound of the Year Thank-You, 2019 Financial Review	9
Upcoming Shows and Events	10



### President's Message

Holly Heighes

*"What lies behind you and what lies in front of you, pales in comparison to what lies inside of you."*  
—Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Inexplicably, I have stumbled across Mr. Emerson twice in the past week after not having given him a thought in probably 20+ years. I've found some of his writings on the appreciation of nature particularly apropos in our forced pseudo-solitude. I believe we rockhounds are fortunate in that we have surrounded ourselves with beautiful and interesting mineral specimens to retreat to for enjoyment and enrichment.

So, 2020 is nearing an end. Good riddance, I say. I would like to end the year with thanks for....

- Diane Leaman's cancer remission
- Jonathan Harris' hard work outside of his duties as Treasurer that supports the club
- Chris Luzier leading a collaborative effort with the Virginia Mineral Project group
- The speakers who have generously given their time
- Andy Celmer, who has been trying to make a positive impact on the EFMLS
- All the vendors and dealers for our show, who have been flexible and supportive
- Olivia Luzier –our Rockhounder editor who keeps us connected and informed
- The MSDC, which has invited us to 'come along' on their presentations
- Karen Lottes and Gary Leaman, who continue to assist with Board activities
- Doug Baum, for his humor and keeping up with all of our membership activities
- Jeff Cessna, for his wit that makes reading our meeting minutes akin to a treasure hunt
- Dave Tiktinsky, for all his help with the show and auctions through the years
- Germaine Broussard, for stepping up into a new role as Field Trip Chair
- Ken Reynolds, for being our previous President and current VP
- Joel Rosen, for all the reasons he was our Rockhound of the Year and more!

And all the club members who consistently give of their time and talent in an effort to keep our club up to Wendell standards!

Cheerio!



## GLMSMC Regular Meeting Minutes from November 9th, 2020

Jeff Cessna

The November 9th, 2020 meeting was called to order by President Holly Heighes at 7:47 PM. There were approximately 45 people in attendance. The meeting was conducted online. A motion passed to approve the minutes of the October 12th, 2020 regular meeting. A motion passed to approve the minutes of the October 16th, 2020 regular meeting.

**President:** President Holly Heighes welcomed members and guests. Guests introduced themselves from the Washington County Gem and Mineral Society, Maine, and from the invited clubs in Washington, D.C., and Virginia. She announced a Board of Directors meeting online for the following week. Discussions will include the 2021 budget. Holly announced the club's Rockhounder of the Year, Joel Rosen. She read the announcement that will appear in the newsletter.

**Membership:** Doug Baum presented two membership applications from Robert Stutzke of Rockville, MD, and Aaron Baker of Charlottesville, VA. A motion passed to accept the new members. Dues have been waived until the end of the year. Doug will send an email regarding membership for next year.

**Show:** Upstairs Chair Dave Tiktinsky reported a decision had not yet been made for the 2021 show. Dealers have been contacted and informed that we must follow MD and Montgomery County guidelines.

**Treasurer:** Jonathan Harris delivered a Treasurer's report. Club expenses since the last report were for the club trailer registration.

**EFMLS Liaison:** Andy Celmer reported that the EFMLS had voted to adopt new by-laws, allowing online business, among other changes. Officers will be elected this month.

**Nominating Committee:** The current officers were re-elected by unanimous proclamation.

**Program:** Holly Heighes introduced our speaker for the evening, Casper Voogt. Casper presented an overview of the Tucson Mineral Show with his experience and advice for attending. He noted that the main show is accompanied by a month of accessory events. He also pointed out it is not the only reason to visit the area, with collecting opportunities, museums, and other activities possible. Collecting should include all considerations for desert collecting. Altogether, it is the best place to see sellers, exhibits, and the latest finds, with some only available there. Casper presented some sage advice on where to stay (book early) and a good selection of area shows to attend. He gave an

*Continued on page 4*



## GLMSMC Regular Meeting Minutes from November 9th, 2020

Jeff Cessna

*Continued from page 3*

overview of what can typically be found at each location. He presented many pictures of the experience. (Remember to take pictures of hotel doors with the room number and dealer name for the dealers you wish to return to.)

Casper answered questions from the audience. Many in attendance shared their own Tucson experiences. The recorded presentation will be made available. See an upcoming email for link. Thanks, Casper!

**Show Table:** Kathy Hrechka shared some of her memories from the 2018 Tucson show on Powerpoint. Reed Owens showed a geode from Morocco. Dave Maclean showed a blasting-twisted piece of sheet copper from the Nonesuch Shale in the White Pine Mine, Michigan. The specimen was purchased in Prescott, Wisconsin, in 1965, as an anniversary present. Denise Nelson showed a dinosaur bone with an embedded dinosaur tooth, purchased in Tucson, and blue and pink indicolite color Brazilian tourmaline. Ken Rock showed an azurite sun. Andrew Celmer showed a thunderegg slab from Oregon, bought at Tucson. Paula Miller showed a polished covellite cabochon set in a sterling silver setting. Jonathan Harris showed a self-collected wavellite in sandstone from Mt. Pleasant Mills, PA. Gary Leaman showed a thunderegg slab from Richardson Ranch, Oregon.

There will be no meetings in December.

**Adjournment:** It was M/S/P to adjourn the meeting at 9:23 PM.

Jeff Cessna, Secretary

---

## GLMSMC BOD Meeting Minutes from November 16th, 2020

Jeff Cessna

**Board members present:** Doug Baum, Germaine Broussard, Andy Celmer, Jeffrey Cessna, Jonathan Harris, Holly Heighes, Chris Luzier, Ken Reynolds, Joel Rosen, and Dave Tiktinsky. **Guests present:** Gary Leaman and Diane Leaman.



## GLMSMC BOD Meeting Minutes from November 16th, 2020

Jeff Cessna

*Continued from page 4*

President Holly Heighes called the November 16th meeting to order at approximately 8:03 PM.

Chris Luzier discussed a letter received from the Virginia Mineral Project and Virginia Chapter of the Friends of Mineralogy proposing cooperation between those organizations and the GLMSMC. Collaborations would include promoting minerals in VA and MD, sharing opportunities for field trips, listing the GLMSMC in the FMVA State Book, etc. A motion was made, seconded, and passed that GLMSMC strike up this collaboration. Chris Luzier, Ken Reynolds, and Jeff Cessna will sign an agreement letter. FMVA will be a demonstrator at our next show and will submit an exhibit.

**Treasurer:** Jonathan Harris circulated the proposed budget for discussion. The number of members to report to EFMLS was verified. The stipend for EFMLS representative was cut to one individual. Several other items were reduced, due to the lack of income. Trailer registration has switched from annual to biennial. Jonathan will incorporate changes and send budget by email for voting. The net worth statement was presented and discussed. Holly and Jonathan will review the Lillian Turner Fund values. The 2019 financial review still needs to be received.

**Membership:** Doug Baum discussed our two new members. Interest in membership comes in through the website. After discussion with the FMVA, Doug noted that approximately 10% of our membership lives in VA.

**Programs:** No meeting will occur in December.

**EFMLS Liaison:** Andy Celmer noted the newly passed EFMLS by-laws include term limits for several leadership positions.

**Show:** The fairground was contacted, and it is possible to roll our deposit another year if necessary. We informed the fairgrounds staff that we will make a decision in January, due to all the preparation required to hold the show. A club show that routinely precedes ours has been cancelled for 2021.

**Social Media/Website:** Holly thanked Patricia Cronin for posting to social media and thanked Jonathan for his updates to the club website.

It was M/S/P to adjourn at 9:05 PM.

Jeff Cessna, Secretary.



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

Mark Dahlman

**Next Meeting Date:** Time will tell

**Meeting Time:** 7:45-9:00PM when we're back in action

**Meeting Location:** Sunroom Cafeteria at the Rockville Senior Center

Happy holidays to all FRA families! Since the holidays are upon us, consider making a rock or fossil decoration this year. It can be as simple as a drawing of a mineral or fossil in a holiday theme or involve the real rock itself (a bedazzled basalt perhaps). Just like this past year, there won't be another one quite like it!

Between now and when we can safely meet again, send me your write-up about your state's fossil (see the November FRA article). That will satisfy a badge activity, and perhaps earn your article a place in the Rockhounder!

I'd love to see pictures of your rock ornament, or your collection showing off your fossil collection, which is another badge activity (see the October FRA article), as well as any interesting fossil-related web links to share with the group. My email address is shown below.

For more information on the Future Rockhounds of America program, please contact Mark Dahlman at [fra\\_advisor@glmsmc.com](mailto:fra_advisor@glmsmc.com) or 301-428-0455.

---

### 2021 Dues Message from our Membership Chair

Doug Baum

Happy and Safe Holiday Season! If you have not already, please consider sending your 2021 membership dues today. Make checks out to GLMSMC (\$20 for family and \$15 for individual) and mail to address below. Send self-addressed stamped envelope to receive your membership cards.

Doug Baum  
Membership Chair GLMSMC  
11205 Golden Meadow Court  
Germantown, MD 20876

You can always contact me at [dbaum18@aol.com](mailto:dbaum18@aol.com).



## **Rockhound of the Year January 2020: Joel Rosen**

Information and write-up presented by Andy B. Celmer

### **Club Rockhound of the Year (CROY)**

#### **CLUB ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR COMMITTEE**

*January 20 is the start of your opportunity to recognize Rockhound of the Year.  
Any member may be selected as your CROY using whatever criteria you choose.*

#### **The Rules:**

To participate in the CROY program, you are asked to send in a brief (70 words or so) write-up of whoever you choose for your honoree, along with their name and the club name. We will then place the information into a CROY article in the EFMLS and AFMS newsletters. If your CROY honoree selection is a dedicated couple, please mention both names. Also, we offer an additional category for junior member members as well. We ask that you only select one honoree (or couple) and one junior per year. You will have another opportunity in 2021.

Please share your shining stars with us by sending your CROY honoree in.

Ellery Borow

Chair, Club Rockhound of the Year

### **Rockhound of the Year Nomination**

I am submitting our club's Rockhounder of the Year.

Joel Rosen has been the club's property manager for as long as I can remember. In our club, this is a critical position because this involves the safekeeping of many assets required for our annual show. Who ensures that our trailer for storing display cases and show equipment is safely stored for 362 days, towed to be unloaded for setup, and towed back a few days later? Joel does.

Somehow he also knows when the trailer needs TLC— waterproofing, new tires, registration, or a complete replacement (as he arranged a couple of years ago). Without Joel, we would be powerless at our show, as Joel knows how to set up all of the electrical cords and avoid blowing fuses.

When the show is over, we can go home because Joel knows how things fit in the trailer and arranges to get it moved to its storage lot when we finish loading. And somehow in the hustle and bustle, he finds gorgeous door prize specimens to add some excitement to the meetings.





## Virginia Mineral Project Winter Update



### State of the Project...

I think we can all agree 2020 was not the year we planned for. Each of us has been impacted in some way due to COVID. The VMP was dedicated to producing virtual events for the community throughout COVID and ended up engaging in over 20 lectures. While the interviews and photos were difficult to accomplish during 2020, the community engagement and bringing people to the table was a vital step in preserving and promoting Virginia mineral heritage. It is incredible to think that starting this year there were zero lecture based programs on YouTube for Virginia minerals, now there are eight locality presentations preserved for people to learn and get excited about.

Our goal is to continue the field work once COVID-19 has been defeated. Most outreach opportunities and shows for 2021 have already been cancelled but the continued virtual engagement and outreach during 2020 has spread the word about the VMP across the state and nationally. The development of the new [Friends of Mineralogy Chapter](#) in Virginia has also helped people notice the work we are doing here and the mission we have.

Since the last newsletter, the VMP hosted two additional community events and spoke at three other clubs (two in Maryland and one in Maine). In early November, a socially distanced kids geology program was held at the local museum in Roanoke as part of the museum partnership. Our Facebook Group, Virginia Minerals has also reached 722 members! The VMP also helped several clubs go virtual and now the community is getting back to "normal" as we move into 2021.

In January, we will host a meeting in the middle of the month to discuss plans for 2021 and the presentation and community event list for the winter/spring. Until then, stay tuned on [social media](#), watch our videos on [YouTube](#), and keep in touch! We look forward to a new year!

### Watch our recent videos on YouTube!



#### CLEANING & PREPARING MINERAL SPECIMENS



### A Sneak Peak into 2021...

Although COVID-19 has reduced the ability to do field work, there have been several ongoing work projects under the mission of the VMP that we are excited to share more about in the coming months! One of these include the development of the Rutherford Mine Research Collection in collaboration with Scott Duresky and the Lora Robins Gallery of Design from Nature at Richmond University. In short, we are working hard to ensure classic locations, such as the Rutherford are preserved and specimens can be photographed and used for educational programming. There will be some big news from this work and presentations in the future! We have also been discussing what localities we want to highlight in our winter/spring lineup for 2021. Some plans so far include:

- Herbb No. 2 Pegmatite, Powhatan Co., Virginia
- Gold in Virginia
- Morefield Mine, Amelia Co., Virginia
- Virginia Collectors (a review of some of the state's most prolific collectors)
- Minerals of Virginia Deep Dive (a look at the book that changed the state)

We have received great feedback from our mineral collection presentations on cleaning, labeling, etc. and will have new discussions on mounting, displaying, etc. for next year! We hope to see you there!



### A well traveled Apophyllite!

Check out this recent acquisition by Alex Venzke, one of our VMP members!

Hydroxyapophyllite-(K), prehnite  
Fairfax Quarry, Centreville, Fairfax Co. Virginia  
Matt McGill Photograph  
7.0cm  
Ex Rock Currier Specimen  
Collection of Alex Venzke





---

## **Rockhounder of the Year Thank-You Message**

Joel Rosen

I would like to thank the GLSMC Board for recognizing me for my efforts over the years.

It has been my pleasure to be associated with such a special group of individuals. I will continue to serve the group as long as the Board deems me fit to do so, and as I'm physically able.

With appreciation.

---

## **2019 Financial Review**

Tom Dushel

To the Board of Directors  
GLSMC

RE: 2019 Financial Review

November 30, 2020

At the request of the Board, I have reviewed the financial records for 2019. This general review included:

- Reconciling the cash balances to the trial balance. Since cash is the most important asset of the society, this review is necessary.
- Review and comparison of the major income/expense categories to the 2019 budget and 2018 actual amounts.
- Review of general support provided.

Based on my review, it appears the records provided are reasonable and reflect the activity from 2019.

Sincerely,

Tom Dushel



## Upcoming Shows and Events

*A Festivus for the Rest of us*

# Holiday

Zoom

## Party BASH

**A Petrified Yule Log Event!**

Brought to you by the Change Masters of the EFMLS

Show & Tell ✨ Best Petrified Specimen Contest ✨ Festivus "Get Up" Contest ✨

Door Window Prizes may also be available depending on donations!

**WHEN**  
December 16 @ 6:30

**WHERE**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/7ZUgdeysrD8gE9w10KvISseHaAEGt1LC6jhy>  
click the link above to register on Zoom!

**Show & Tell:** Bring your best most recent specimen you collected since 2019 and show it off!

**Petrified Specimen Contest:** Participants show their specimen and audience votes on winning specimen. Winner gets a petrified specimen!

**"Get Up" Contest:** Participant's attire and/or background presentation (not virtual background). You choose holiday themed sweater, outfit, accessories, or non-virtual mineral background. 4 Awards for top choice in the Prettiest, Ugliest, Most Original and Merriest categories!

CONTACT: [efmlsinc@gmail.com](mailto:efmlsinc@gmail.com) for more details or to donate mineral specimens!

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** – Holly Heighes

**Vice President** – Ken Reynolds

**Secretary** – Jeff Cessna

**Treasurer** – Jonathan Harris

**Field Trip Chairman** – Germaine Broussard

**Membership Chairman** – Doug Baum

**Downstairs Showchair** – Chris Luzier

**Upstairs Showchair** – Dave Tiktinsky

**Property Manager** – Joel Rosen

**Immediate Past President** – Jonathan Harris

**EFMLS Liaison** – Andy Celmer

**Bulletin Editor**– Olivia Luzier

**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](mailto:editor@glmsmc.com).

Permission to copy material printed herein, except specifically copyrighted items, is granted, provided credit is given.

Award Winning Bulletin  
EFMLS, AFMS



**TIME SENSITIVE  
DATED MATERIAL  
FIRST CLASS MAIL**

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