



The Rockhounder

November 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 December issue of The Rockhounder to Editor Olivia Luzier at editor@glmsmc.com by Monday, November 23rd, 2020.

Regular Meeting Announcements

Ken Reynolds, Vice President

November Speaker Information:

Speaker: Casper Voogt

Focus of Talk: Tucson 2020 Mineral Show

Casper will share some Tucson 2020 stories and tips he has gleaned to make the most out of a future trip to the show in Tucson, Arizona.

Zoom Meeting Issues:

We don't want anyone to be left out who may want to participate in our Monthly Zoom meetings but are having technological challenges– please reach out to any Board member for help if you fall into this category.

Next Regular Meeting:

Date: November 9th, 2020

Time: 7:30 PM

Place: Virtual (online Zoom meeting)

Please note that this is a virtual Zoom meeting and we will not meeting in-person at the Senior Center.

Next BOD Meeting: November 16th, 2020

Time: 8 PM

Place: Virtual (online Zoom meeting)

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President's Message

Holly Heighes

Well now. It has been 8 months since we have been able to pursue our hobby and lives such as we would want. I am buoyed by the good cheer and flexibility of our fellow rockhounds and all the efforts that are made to keep us connected and enriched by various virtual presentations.

It was great to see so many faces at our October meeting featuring Thomas Hale, Virginia minerals enthusiast extraordinaire. Another positive is the cooperation between our local clubs—I think it nice that the MSDC club has invited us to share in their presentations and we likewise have, and will, reciprocate with them and other local clubs going forward.

Memory Lane

As we all know, we have a lot of members who are particularly interested in fluorescent minerals; I like to refer to them as the 'Glow Guys.' They are sad because one of their main events, Ultraviolation—usually held around this time—was cancelled. For those who are not aware, the Ultraviolation show takes places primarily in the dark (with alternating lights on and off) so the fluorescent minerals can be more readily seen and attendees don't have to wear their usual costume of grill covers. In this UV-light-rich environment, safety precautions must be taken—glasses, sunscreen, etc.

About 7 years ago, we had a Board meeting the Monday after Ultraviolation at Andy Muir's home. I walked in the door and noticed Andy was wearing sandals and that his feet were extremely sunburnt. I looked down at his feet, then looked up at him, and before I could open my mouth to voice the sarcastic comment that was forming, he stuck his finger in my face and said "SHUT UP! DON'T SAY A WORD!" Andy had failed to wear proper shoes at Ultraviolation, but as always with Andy, he took the teasing in good humor (just not from me that night)!

Proposed Slate of Officers Nominees

Here is the proposed slate of officers for the upcoming 2021 term:

President: Holly Heighes

Vice President: Ken Reynolds

Treasurer: Jonathan Harris

Secretary: Jeff Cessna

If anyone else has any interest in serving one of these positions, please contact Chris Luzier, Ken Reynolds, or Dave Tiktinsky.



GLSMC Regular Meeting Minutes from October 12, 2020

Jeff Cessna

The October 12, 2020 meeting was called to order by President Holly Heighes at 7:45 PM. There were approximately 33 people in attendance. The meeting was conducted online. A motion passed to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2020 regular meeting.

President: President Holly Heighes welcomed members and guests. She announced a Board of Directors meeting online for the following week. The topic will be upcoming meetings and ongoing EFMLS business.

Treasurer: Holly delivered a report from Treasurer Jonathan Harris. Club expenses since last report were for the web page and the account for online meetings.

Nominating Committee: Chris Luzier gave an update on the search for a new President. The VP, Secretary, and Treasurer will stand again for election. Voting will occur in November.

Field Trips: Field Trip Chair Germaine Broussard reported there were no upcoming trips.

EFMLS Liaison: Andy Celmer reported that the EFMLS meeting had been cancelled. The by-laws do not allow online meetings.

Membership: Holly reminded members that the current period of membership has been extended until the end of the 2020.

Show: Downstairs Chair Chris Luzier reported that he and Upstairs Chair Dave Tiktinsky have been discussing the show. Some dealers have been contacted and all are in a holding pattern. Discussion of the venue ensued. It was noted that Montgomery County sets the rules.

Vice President: VP Ken Reynolds reported that he is working on securing upcoming presentations. The club is invited to take part in a Mineralogical Society of DC upcoming meeting with a presentation from Drs. Lance and Cindy Kearns on the history of the James Madison University Mineral Museum. Details provided separately.

Program: The evening's program was "Classic Virginia Mineral Locations and Minerals" by Thomas Hale. Thomas is the founder of the Virginia Mineral Project and President of the new Virginia Chapter of the Friends of Mineralogy. Thomas started his research with Mineral of Virginia by R.V. Dietrich. He was inspired to redo the book with the inclusion of color mineral photos and updated information. The presentation consisted of a tour of classic Virginia mineral localities with representative photos. Localities include iridescent hematite from Peterson Mountain; crystalized turquoise from the Bishop Mine; rhodonite from Kidds Store, Fluvanna Co.; and uniquely crystalized pyrite from Barger Quarry, among many others. A Barger Quarry pyrite collected by Buck Keller is the basis of the VA Chapter Fiends of Mineralogy logo. Thomas showed that VA can be the source for

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GLMSMC Regular Meeting Minutes from October (Cont'd)

Jeff Cessna

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world class specimens. In 2019 their efforts lead to the discovery of an 11-inch green beryl crystal from the Dale Quarry, dubbed the 'Green Giant.' Thomas answered many questions from members on mineral and localities. Thanks, Thomas.

Adjournment: It was M/S/P to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 PM.

Jeff Cessna, Secretary

GLMSMC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes from October 19th, 2020

Jeff Cessna

Board Members Present: Doug Baum, Andy Celmer, Jonathan Harris, Holly Heighes, Chris Luzier, Ken Reynolds, Joel Rosen, and Dave Tiktinsky. **Guests Present:** Gary Leaman, Diane Leaman, and Karen Lottes.

President Holly Heighes called the October 19th meeting to order at approximately 8:03 PM.

Social Media: It was reported that a mineral sale had been held using the club Facebook page, against the rules of the club. The incident will be investigated and page access will be restricted as necessary.

Property: Jonathan Harris volunteered to take possession of club property temporarily kept in a storage facility. Chris Luzier and Holly Heighes will provide the key and access information. The materials include recently purchased cloth show table drapes that should be kept in a dry environment. When used at future shows, they will be hung on Thursday instead of being ironed. We will use the existing blue plastic drapes over top of the new tablecloths (in areas that are wet or prone to being soiled) to protect the new cloths. Sufficient numbers were purchased for replacements. We will store the receipt in club files in case we need to place a future order.

Jonathan Harris reported on an offered donation. Details should be supplied to the secretary in order to send a thank you letter. Joel Rosen will check on the show material in the trailer before the end of the year. He expressed confidence in the integrity of the new trailer. He informed the Board that the owner of the rental property where the trailer is stored would contact him in the event of any major damage, due to weather.

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GLMSMC BOD Meeting Minutes from October (Cont'd)

Jeff Cessna

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Programs: The most recent online meeting was discussed. The meeting went well. Future meeting programs were suggested. VP Ken Reynolds is still lining up speaker. He will contact those who have agreed to in-person talks to see if they will give online talks. If necessary, a pre-recorded presentation could be used.

Nominating Committee: A meeting is required in November to perform the club election. Chris Luzier reported a candidate for president was still required. The need to administer online meeting was seen as a possible hurdle. Current President Holly Heighes agreed to stand for election for a second term, completing the slate. There was much rejoicing. If in-person meetings resume, the by-laws give procedures for replacement, if necessary.

EFMLS Liaison: Rockhounder of the Year was decided. Andy Celmer will submit the required information to EFMLS and to the Rockhounder editor. Ongoing EFMLS business was discussed.

Website: Jonathan Harris renewed the website. The renewal information and password will be stored in club records.

Treasurer: It was noted that it is time to draft the budget for next year. The effect of the membership time period extension needs to be considered. The budget will be prepared in two forms, with and without a show for 2021. Holly will assist. Jonathan had previously communicated the cost to the club of missing the show and operating under the current circumstances. The online meeting platform membership category will be increased for additional functionality.

Show: Contingency planning for the 2021 show ensued. It was decided that January 15th, 2021 was the target date to make a decision regarding the 2021 show. Dave Tiktinsky will contact the dealers. It was noted that Montgomery County has been more restrictive for gatherings than Maryland in general.

It was M/S/P to adjourn at 9:27 PM.

Jeff Cessna, Secretary.

Thank You, Jonathan!

Special Thank You to Jonathan Harris who cleared out the club's temporary storage unit and transferred all the property to his home. Thanks Jonathan!



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

Hopefully, FRA members spent some time with their fossils in the past month as part of the curation activity for the Fossils badge. Another activity you can do toward earning the badge is to find out about your state's fossil. (You'll need to do three activities to earn the badge.) Here are the instructions:

Activity 3.6: Your state fossil.

Just as each state has its own flag, many have an official state fossil. Find out what your state fossil is and write a report about it for your club newsletter or talk about it at one of your meetings. If your state doesn't have a state fossil, discuss what would be a good fossil to nominate, and then write to your governor or local state legislature to suggest it!

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

I'd love to see pictures of your collection, 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> or 301-428-0455.

Sunshine Message

Sent from Gary Leaman

Diane had her last radiation treatment and the oncologist told her that she was cured and cancer free. The side effects of the chemo are diminishing, and she is feeling good.

Diane wishes to thank you all for your prayers and well wishes.



Mineral-Related Virtual Presentations

Mineral-Related Virtual Presentation Offerings

GIA knowledge sessions:

<https://www.gia.edu/knowledge-sessions-webinar>

Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History:

Live Video Programs

<https://naturalhistory.si.edu/education/live-video-programs>

Cleaning & Preparing Mineral Specimens:

Thomas Hale

YouTube Video Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VM4bzwBERdA&feature=youtu.be>

You will find marked time stamps and titles on the video which will allow you to skip or jump to specific sections that meet your needs! This was a longer discussion, but thank you again to everyone who shared their techniques, safety tips, and advice!

Friends of Mineralogy Virginia Chapter:

You Tube channel with various recorded offerings

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVXiDsPBpOIZ2Qw3L8XH3VQ>

Mineralogical Society of DC:

Instructions to request Zoom links for talks are on their website

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

Eastern Federation (EFMLS):

Recorded presentations, such as Bob Jones discussing Wulfenite

<https://efmls.org/>



Upcoming Virginia Mineral Project and Friends of Mineralogy– Virginia Chapter (FMVA) Events

Online Upcoming Events:

- **JMU Mineral Museum**— Talk by Dr. Lance & Cindy Kearns on November 18 from 7:00 PM-8:30 PM

Join us for an exciting presentation on the historic re-opening of the new JMU Mineral Museum. Dr. Lance and Cindy Kearns will be presenting on the history and evolution of the JMU museum over the years and the events leading up to this brand new exhibit. Be prepared for fun stories and beautiful mineral photographs!

- **New Mexico Minerals: Blanchard Mine**— Talk by Erin Delventhal on November 27 from 7:00 PM-9:00 PM

More information coming soon! Expect a follow-up on the week before! RSVP on Zoom now! Zoom registration link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/tZMoceGrqDwrGtaWhv4rv2LTAWEffjpHiQXi>

If you are interested in joining the Friends of Mineralogy– Virginia Chapter, please see the link below for our membership application: <https://www.friendsofmineralogyvirginia.org/join/>

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.

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Award Winning Bulletin
EFMLS, AFMS



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