



# The Rockhounder

October 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 November issue of The Rockhounder to Editor Olivia Luzier at [editor@glmsmc.com](mailto:editor@glmsmc.com) by Saturday, October 24th, 2020.

## Regular Meeting Announcements

Ken Reynolds, Vice President

### October Speaker Information:

**Speaker:** Thomas Hale

#### Speaker Bio:

Thomas Hale is on a mission to preserve and promote Virginia's mineral and mining heritage through educational programming and community outreach events. He is the current president of the newly founded Friends of Mineralogy Virginia Chapter (FMVA) and is the founder of the Virginia Mineral Project. Thomas has given presentations across the state of Virginia and, since the onset of COVID-19, has been hosting monthly Zoom meetings for the community. His passion extends past the minerals themselves and into historical documents, books, maps, and any information related to mining and mineral collecting. Outside of Virginia minerals, Thomas is interested in mineral deposits located in Pakistan, Afghanistan, and India. His day job is very different than mineralogy, where he works on conflict resolution and security policy issues in South

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### Next Regular Meeting:

**Date:** October 12th, 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 Board of Directors Meeting:

TBD

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## October Speaker Information (Cont'd)

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Asia. He is a current graduate student at the George Washington University Elliott School of International Affairs.

### **Presentation Description:** *Virginia Mineral Classics*

Join us for an exciting showcase of Virginia's classic mineral localities! This presentation will be full of updated photographs from the recent work of the Virginia Mineral Project and will highlight the rich mineral heritage of Virginia. Most of the localities documented in the state have never seen updates using modern technology and photography. Each slide tells a story, and everyone is encouraged to ask questions and engage throughout the presentation, including a Q&A at the end. If you have Virginia mineral specimens, then please feel free to showcase them at the end of the meeting!

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## President's Message

Holly Heighes

Hello there. I hope this finds you all well and making the best of our current situation.

Many thanks to those intrepid club members who participated in our September Zoom meeting. It was great to see you. The meeting was not perfect, but we did well enough to feel comfortable doing a meeting with a guest speaker. Thomas Hale, founder of the Virginia Mineral Project, has been holding virtual events for some time and is excited to share his presentation on classic Virginia mineral localities with us. By now you should have received the invitation link and credentials. If you have not, or have questions, please reach out to me or Ken.

At our November meeting, we will be voting on the club's executive officers for 2021. Candidate names for the positions can be found elsewhere in this issue. If anyone else has any interest in serving one of these positions, please contact a member of the nominating committee, which includes: Chris Luzier, Ken Reynolds, and Dave Tiktinsky.

Memory lane.... I recently came across some minerals that were from the Nancy Ballard auction. I suspect many of you reading this attended that event — 10 years ago on October 9<sup>th</sup>.

Hope to virtually see you on the 12<sup>th</sup>....

Regards,  
Holly



## GLMSMC BOD Minutes for September

There was no official Board of Directors meeting for September.

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## GLMSMC Regular Meeting Minutes from September 14th, 2020

Jeff Cessna

The September 14, 2020 meeting was called to order by President Holly Heighes at 7:50 PM. There were approximately 22 people in attendance. The meeting was conducted online. A motion passed to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2020 regular meeting. A motion passed to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2020 BOD meeting. A motion passed to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2020 BOD meeting.

**President:** President Holly Heighes welcomed members and guests. She reported that Dr. Jeff Post has authored a book on the latest update to the Smithsonian Gem collection.

**Membership:** Doug Baum announced the extension of the current period of membership until the end of the 2020. He has been contacted by a few new potential members.

**Show:** Upstairs Chair Dave Tiktinsky gave a brief update on the show dealer. Approximately half have rolled their show fees from 2020 to 2021. Planning for the 2021 show typically begins in October. Jonathan Harris reported that 2020 deposits for security and show venue have been applied to 2021.

**Treasurer:** Chris Luzier reported that member Tom Dushel had completed the review of the 2019 finances and gave his stamp of approval. Tom will submit a letter for publishing in the Rockhounder. Treasurer Jonathan Harris supplied a report. Holly Heighes reported the meeting venue has credited back rental fees for missed meetings.

**Nominating Committee:** Chris Luzier stated the club will need a new President for 2021. Please contact Chris if you are interested or have questions. A nominee should be announced in the October newsletter and voting will occur in November.

**EFMLS Liaison:** Andy Celmer sent an update to the President. Holly reported the EFMLS show will occur October 23-25 in Hickory, NC. The EFMLS meeting will occur virtually. EFLMS has developed field trip protocols for the current health consideration. A recent talk from Bob Jones is available online. The EFMLS is working on internal changes. Andy is a member of the by-laws committee. The EFMLS has added two new Wildacres scholarships.

Gary and Diane Leaman provided a positive update on Diane's treatment.

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## GLMSMC Regular Meeting Minutes from September (Cont'd)

Jeff Cessna

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**Field Trips:** Past Field Trip Chair Dave Fryauff reported news from Sam Linton that past collecting locations are currently unavailable for collecting, but still open to future collecting.

**Program:** The evening program was an extended virtual Show Table by the attending members. Reed Owen presented a fluorite from White Rock Quarry, Clay Center, OH, purchased at a club auction. Doug Baum presented a rhodochrosite from Argentina. Dave Fryauff presented a specimen of large sulfur crystals on a matrix of quartz and fluorite. Locality is likely that it was lab created. Dave Tiktinsky presented a quartz with smoky and amethyst phantoms from the Gobobos mountains, Erongo, Namibia. Gary Leaman presented a silver ore specimen from Zimapan, Mexico, and a silver from Bou Azzer, Morocco, both purchased at the Northern Virginia Mineral Club show. Diane Leaman presented a silver bar produced from harvesting electrical equipment, obtained at the most recent GPAA meeting. Jonathan Harris presented a corundum (var. ruby, LW fluor red) from Karnataka, India, obtained from Fred Parker, and a pyrite twin from La Rioja, Spain. Chris Luzier presented a Lake Superior agate showing unusual green color and bulls eye pattern. The polished surface is due entirely to glacial action. Pat Repik-Byrne presented a sandstone fish sculpture received from her co-workers. Holly Heighes presented a copper specimen from Michigan given to her by her grandfather when she was 6 years old. Jeff Cessna presented backdrop photos of cuspidine, margosonite, radiating willemite, and zincite specimens from New Jersey, each under daylight, longwave (LW) ultraviolet (UV) light, and shortwave (SW) UV light. Dee Weiss presented the display cases received by Jennifer upon her graduation. Dave Tiktinsky panned his camera across his wall display case.

Thanks to all members for contributing to the evening program.

Holly Heighes requested information on whether ketchup was fluorescent.

**Adjournment:** It was M/S/P to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 PM.

Jeff Cessna, Secretary

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[https://www.facebook.com/  
groups/984241208329511/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/984241208329511/)



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

Mark Dahlman

**Next Meeting Date:** Time will tell

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

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

We'll look forward to 2021 when we can go back to Bay Front Park, which is closed for 2020. There we'll be able to find lots of little sharks' teeth and other fossils. Until then, it's a good time to put our fossil collections in order. One of the activities to earn our next badge, Fossils, is to curate a fossil collection. Here are the instructions:

Build a fossil collection of 10 to 20 specimens. Some collectors concentrate on a single sort of plant or animal (for instance, trilobites) and try to collect a wide range of species. Others concentrate on one locality or formation and build an array of all the plants and animals that locality has to offer. Still others opt for diversity, trying to collect a little bit of everything (clams, brachiopods, corals, shark teeth, trilobites, etc.). Whichever form you choose, be sure to follow the basics of good curation, labeling each specimen and keeping a log book with key information (what it is, where it came from, age of the fossil, etc.).

Between now and when we can safely meet again, keep your eyes out for fossils to build your Collection. Whether that's something you can find, or something you buy (there are a lot of inexpensive fossils available these days). Perhaps you have some fossils already that could use a label, or just a little organizing.

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.

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### Proposed Slate of Officers Nominees

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

**President:** In Progress

**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.



## Natural History Society of Maryland Announcement

Chris Luzier

The Natural History Society of Maryland (NHSM) has been running monthly raffles this year as fundraisers for the Society. The NHSM typically runs numerous field trips and nature walks with various themes such as wild plants and mushroom foraging, fossil hunting trips at Stratford Hall Virginia and other Calvert Cliffs localities. They cover every facet of Maryland natural resources and the enjoyment and study of the varied natural world that our beautiful state offers. Proceeds from these raffles help to support the organization, it's programs and it's varied and diverse collections that offer a snapshot of Maryland's natural world. The prizes have ranged from a fossil collection from Calvert Cliffs including a 4" Megalodon tooth, various personally guided field trips with NHSM curators, crab feasts and now this current month's prize which is a collection of activities that can be found on their website for the October Raffle. Every raffle has also included a lifetime membership with NHSM, which is a \$750.00 value!!!

Their website is excellent with tons of different types of programs from wild edible plants foraging, Paleontology, Archaeology, and all facets of the natural world and it's exploration. A membership in the NHSM is a wonderful way to be connected with other people that enjoy the great outdoors, whether it be in person or virtually! They have many different available Zoom programs in a variety of scientific and natural world disciplines and I cannot recommend them enough!!!

The NHSM website is [marylandnature.org](http://marylandnature.org) and explains all of their upcoming programs, monthly raffles and membership information.

**This fall we are holding monthly raffles as a way  
to raise funds for the Natural History Society to weather this pandemic  
AND as a form of outreach and giving back  
to our wonderful supporters.**

Win a lifetime membership to NHSM (discounts on programs and more!) AND a Family Fun Pack!

Purchase your tickets to win a chance for body moving, laughter inducing, and pandemic routine breaking fun.

To read complete details of the trip and purchase raffle tickets, follow this link: <https://www.marylandnature.org/raffle/>. Only \$5 per raffle ticket and buying more than one ticket increases your chances of winning!

We will announce the winner on October 31, 2020. Your donation will go toward offering more programs and natural history educational resources virtually.





## Rockhounding Finds from Members' Personal Collecting Trips

Sam Linton's finds from a trip through Ohio and Kentucky



*Two large Brachiopods with dogtooth calcite and doubly terminated calcite*



*Calcite*



*Calcite*



## **Upcoming Shows**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual South Jersey Gem, Jewelry, Mineral & Fossil Outdoor Show**

**Date:** October 17, 2020

**Rain Date:** October 18, 2020

**Location:** 1721 Springdale Road Cherry Hill, NJ 08054

**Show Time:** Saturday @ 10:00am – 5:00pm

**Website:** [www.sjmineralshow.com](http://www.sjmineralshow.com)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/sjmineralshow](https://www.facebook.com/sjmineralshow)

#### **COVID-19 Update:**

This year, our show will be held outdoors only as a 1-day show. The show will be held on Saturday (10/17/2020) from 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM with a rain date of Sunday (10/18/2020) from 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM. Face Coverings are required, hand sanitizing stations will be available, and social distancing will be put in place.

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).

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Award Winning Bulletin  
EFMLS, AFMS



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