

## September 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 October issue of The Rockhounder to Editor Olivia Luzier at <a href="mailto:editor@glmsmc.com">editor@glmsmc.com</a> by Monday, September 28th, 2020.

## **Regular Meeting Announcements**

Ken Reynolds, Vice President

## **September Speaker Information:**

We will be hosting a virtual Zoom meeting, featuring a members' show-and-tell.

**Note:** This is **not** an in-person meeting at the Senior Center; this is an online meeting.

Please see the President's Message on pages 2 and 3 for more detailed information on the Zoom meeting.

FRA members are also welcome to attend.

Follow us on Facebook at

https://www.facebook.com/groups/984241208329511/

#### **Next Regular Meeting:**

**Date:** Sept. 14th, 2020 **Time:** 7:30 PM

**Place:** Virtual (online Zoom meeting)

#### **Next Board of Directors Meeting:**

TBD

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## President's Message

### **Holly Heighes**

Hello all,

I wish things were back to normal and that we could meet at the Senior Center, but it appears we will be having a virtual meeting on Zoom for our September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. We have chosen, for this first attempt, to not have a formal presentation, but instead have a modified show table. We hope that this gives more members a chance to interact and see each others' faces, as well as working out any Zoom kinks we might experience. All FRA members are welcome as well.

#### This is how we anticipate (hope) it to go:

- We will formally schedule a meeting on Zoom, which will generate an 'invitation.'
- We will send this invitation to all GLMSMC members **please do not forward it outside our** group or share it on Facebook or any other social media.
- The invitation will have a meeting ID number, as well as a password; you might want to make a note of it.
- At 7:30 on the 14th, we will open the meeting to give folks a chance to join and hopefully deal with technology issues. The actual meeting will start at 7:45.
- To join, you will click on the link provided by the invitation. If that does not automatically allow you to enter, you may have to enter the meeting ID and password.
- You will enter the 'waiting room,' at which point the host will need to allow you to enter.
- At 7:45, we will start the meeting and everyone will be muted by the host.
- We will then have approval of minutes and various committee reports.
- For the 'show table,' please have a specimen to show the group. If you bring one and wish to participate in this, please signify by one of 3 methods:
  - —Send a private chat message to the host
  - -Raise your 'virtual' hand
  - -Raise your actual hand
- When it is your turn to speak and show your specimen, the meeting host will send you a notification that you may 'unmute' yourself. That prompts you to click on the microphone; once you do so, everyone in the group should be able to hear you.

**Note:** For those who use or wish to use Virtual Backgrounds in Zoom– it can be problematic to show other objects (i.e. rocks). I recommend either shutting off the virtual background for our meeting or



## President's Message (Cont'd)

## **Holly Heighes**

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being careful to have your specimen directly in front of you and limit movement.

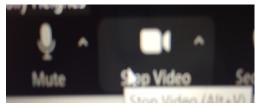
Regards, Holly

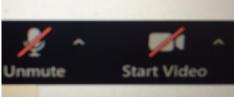
#### If you are new to Zoom...

- I recommend trying to enter early; the first time I tried to join a Zoom meeting, I had difficulty and believe I wound up having to download something in order to do it. But then again, I am technologically challenged.
- You have the option of turning your camera on or off by clicking on the camera icon, generally found at the bottom of your screen (I have only done this on my computer, so if things are different on phones, I am unaware).
- Whoever is speaking will generally have a yellow outline around their box on the screen.
- There are a couple different 'view' options (generally found at the top of your screen). You click on 'gallery view'/'speaker view' to either see all the participants in equal sized small boxes filling up the screen, and perhaps even going on to a second page. Or you will see the speaker in a large box, taking up most of the screen while everyone else is shrunk to small tiles above or to the side.
- The chat option is found at the bottom of your screen. If you are using a computer, you may have to hover your cursor over that part of the screen for it to appear.
- The virtual hand can be found on the participants list, either next to your name or at the bottom of the list of names. Again, you may have to hover your cursor over the bottom of your screen for the option to appear.
- **CAUTION** Please be mindful that if your video is on, other participants can see you, even if you are not speaking. They may be able to see what is going on in the background of where you are.
- There are a variety of Zoom tutorials available online, if you are interested.

If you are uncomfortable with using video, you can still join the meeting and listen in with your video off.

Below are the symbols that you click on to activate or deactivate your microphone and camera.







## REPRINT of March 9th, 2020 Regular Minutes for Approval

#### Jeff Cessna

The March 9, 2020 meeting was called to order by President Holly Heighes at 7:44 PM. There were approximately 55 people in attendance (49 adults, 6 juniors). A motion passed to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2020 regular meeting. A motion passed to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2020 BOD meeting

**President:** President Holly Heighes welcomed members and guests. Current plans for the show were discussed, including the possibility of cancellation. A plan was in place. Holly welcomed our speaker, Jeff Post, congratulating him on his new position on the GIA Board of Governors. A small group spent time in Wendell Mohr's collection to pull specimens for a memorial display and begin preparation for a possible future auction. A memorial service for Wendell was planned for mid-summer.

**Membership:** Doug Baum asked several guests to introduced themselves, including those invited by a brand new member. A motion passed to approve the memberships of Sho Yano of Rockville.

**Show:** Doug Baum had flyers for the show. Upstairs Chair Dave Tiktinsky gave the status of dealers, noting all tables are filled. Downstairs Chair Chris Luzier noted he had seen many of our dealers at the Delaware show and that it was busy. He had volunteer sign-up sheets. Chris announced for multiple reasons the shop has been cancelled this year. Volunteers will be redistributed. The intention is for the shop to return next year. Chris thanked Jennifer Weiss who plans to return on spring break to assist in the junior's area. More demonstrators were added. Draping tables will be easier due to the club purchase of cloth covers. Joel thanked those who had volunteered to set up and take down.

**Field Trips:** Holly welcomed and thanked out new Field Trip Chair, Germaine Broussard. Germaine announced upcoming field trips to the Super Digg in Franklin, NJ, Mt. Pleasant Mills, Vulcan Material Ouarry, and Mt. Pleasant Amethyst Mine.

**EFMLS Liaison:** Andy Celmer noted that two club delegates were still needed to attend the business meeting at the EFLMS Show. Wildacres Retreat scholarships were still available (contact Andy). Scholarships require a minimum of 4 hours of work at the show. Upcoming shows were noted, including the Super Digg and Franklin show in April, an upcoming Rock Swap on Bel Air Rd and a CGMS living estate auction.

**Program:** Vice/Past President Ken Reynolds introduced the speaker for the evening, Dr. Jeffrey Post of the Smithsonian Institution. Jeff gave a presentation about the past year at the museum and what is upcoming. He noted these yearly talks serve as a diary for the activities and acquisitions of the museum. He began with scenes and acquisitions from the Denver Mineral Show last fall, including the unique "Basket Handle" fluorite ball in rings from Pune, India, and the blueberry/grape shaped chalcopyrite from Tonglushan Mine, Hubei Prov, China. He moved on to Tucson— "an amped-up version of our show." The Smithsonian "World class Minerals" display showed specimens from the

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# REPRINT of March 9th, 2020 Regular Minutes for Approval (Cont'd)

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Canfield and Roebling collections, including a very large Roeblingite. He showed highlights of the show and new acquisitions. Included were a suite of minerals from the M'fuoati and Mindouli Mining Districts in the Republic of Congo, bought with a donation from our club. In February, all the mineral cases at the Smithsonian received a deep cleaning and upgrading of components. New labels will be coming later this year. There was a preview of an upcoming exhibit that reader will need to visit the museum to see.

Jeff answered questions. He closed his presentation with a personal remembrance of Wendell Mohr, missing his presence and recalling Wendall as his first contact with the club upon arriving at the Smithsonian. Before Wendell's passing, Jeff was able to visit Wendell and receive some specimens to go into the museum collection to be certain Wendell will be remembered. Thanks, Jeff.

At the break, there were cupcakes to celebrate the birthday of Life Member, George Durland.

Show table and door prizes were administered by Joel Rosen.

Adjournment: It was M/S/P to adjourn the meeting at 9:57 PM

Jeff Cessna, Secretary

## **GLMSMC BOD Minutes from June 22, 2020**

Jeff Cessna

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

President Holly Heighes called the June 22nd meeting to order at approximately 7:03 PM.

**EFMLS Liaison:** Holly Heighes reported that she and Andy Celmer attended an EFMLS online meeting convened for the opportunity to share club responses to disruptions in regular activities. The meeting also served as an opportunity to identify potential problems with online meetings.

There was a discussion of fall meeting possibilities after the summer break. The Board will explore online meeting options. They will perform a dry run to identify potential issues. Online meeting security will need to be considered. The Rockville Senior Center has refunded our meeting space



## GLMSMC BOD Minutes from June 22, 2020 (Cont'd)

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rental fees. Potential difficulties barring the eventual resumption of in-person meetings were discussed.

**Membership:** There was a discussion of possible dues relief, due to the disruption of usual club activities. A motion passed to extend the membership of current members to the end of 2020 and make future memberships begin in January. Doug Baum will notify members and supply information for the joint July-August Rockhounder. Membership cards will need to be updated to reflect the new membership term. Impact on the club by-laws will be investigated.

**Programs:** Available programs options were discussed, including those by individuals with experience presenting online. The possibility of an extended show-table format was suggested.

**Adjournment:** A motion passed to adjourn at 7:25 PM.

Jeff Cessna, Secretary.

## Summer BOD Meeting for Fall Planning- August 10, 2020

Minutes submitted by Chris Luzier on behalf of Jeff Cessna, Secretary

Virtual meeting commenced at 8:48 PM after some technical issues. **Present virtually:** Holly, Karen, Gary, Jonathan, Dave T., Dave F., Germaine, Ken, Andy, and Chris.

This meeting was prompted by the uncertainty of the pandemic and planning for our upcoming meetings and activities and for 2021 as well. We know already as of 2021 that we will need a new incoming President. A nominating committee was established with Dave Tiktinsky, Ken Reynolds, and Chris Luzier comprising the committee. If anyone is interested in helping the organization by volunteering to be President, please contact any of the above three members.

The EFMLS group is having a virtual meeting this upcoming Thursday evening to talk with the insurance representative. There will also be a second talk on field trip safety in light of COVID. There was also a Board discussion of our insurance with the EFMLS, which provides insurance to almost

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## **Summer BOD Meeting for Fall Planning- August 10, 2020**

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every rock and mineral club in the eastern part of the United States. There is also a virtual question and answer session for the rock and mineral group clients, with the representative for the insurance company upcoming. We will also need a new resident agent for 2021, for which Jonathan graciously volunteered to take on. A motion was made for Jonathan to replace Holly as the new resident agent. This was M/S/P by the Board members.

There was also a discussion on whether to try a show and tell Zoom meeting for the September meeting to have our members be able to at least get together and see each other's faces, even though we can't do it in person. We are going to give it a try for the September 14th Regular meeting. (More information will be in the September Rockhounder, or will go out via email.) The particulars of how far to hold a mineral specimen from the camera were discussed, along with muting everyone's microphones as each individual is showing of their specimen. Anyone who has a specimen or two to share, would raise their "virtual" hand and then the moderator can click on the next person. More to follow as we get closer to the date.

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 PM.

## Future Rockhounders 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

If you all aren't too tired of online material, take a look at some excellent videos about fossils (our next badge) published on YouTube by the American Museum of Natural History:

How do you find dino fossils: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TG">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TG</a> p3CPFJmY&t=0s

How do you find living dinos: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xw1AMr55fp4&t=0s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xw1AMr55fp4&t=0s</a>

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

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A fossil dig in Wyoming's Morrison Formation: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EI7uvT7oxXA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EI7uvT7oxXA</a>

How museum support rods shaped pop culture: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pPhpzgz84i0

And a classic from Science Friday (SciFri): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rZU7fczwus0&t=0s

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

## **Membership Corner**

#### **Doug Baum**

In recognizing what we are going through, our Board has decided to extend your current membership through December 31, 2020.

Then, your membership will be annually starting January 1, 2021. If you have any questions, feel free to email me at <a href="mailto:dbaum18@aol.com">dbaum18@aol.com</a>

Doug Baum GLMSMC Membership Chairman

## **Sunshine Message: Update on Diane**

## Gary Leaman

#### To give everyone an update on Diane:

We spoke to the surgeon and the tumors have shrunk to where they can not be seen on a MRI. Diane's surgery went well. The doctors are pleased with the results of the chemo and the surgery. Thank you for your continued prayers.



## **Rockhounding Finds**

#### Sam Linton

Working calcite seam in West Virginia



## **Upcoming Show Updates**

Most upcoming shows for our area are in a holding pattern currently. Many are being rescheduled or postponed at this point. Check the next Rockhounder for more updates on shows!

#### **Cancelled Shows and Events of Note:**

• The August 2020 session of Wildacres is officially cancelled! Please check the EFMLS.org website for more updates.

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 <a href="http://www.amfed.org/news/default.htm">http://www.amfed.org/news/default.htm</a>.





#### **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

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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 <a href="mailto:editor@glmsmc.com">editor@glmsmc.com</a>.

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