



The Rockhounder

December 2021

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 by Tuesday, December 28, 2021.

Regular Meeting Announcements

Ken Reynolds, Vice President

December Speaker Information

Speaker: There will be no speaker this month, as we will be having our annual holiday party again!

Title of Talk: Holiday Party!

The regular meeting will be held on Monday, December 13th at 7:30 PM. This meeting will be our annual potluck style holiday party, so bring your favorite dishes, desserts, snacks, or drinks you wish to share with other members and friends.

Also, you can bring any mineral specimens you wish to sell, trade, or give away. Please keep your items for swap/sale to the maximum of one or two flats, due to the shortage of space.

Once again, we are having a holiday gift exchange. Members who wish to participate in the exchange should bring any hobby related item, mineral, fossil, or lapidary item. Please wrap the item and only identify it as mineral fossil or lapidary; this way it remains a surprise for when we unwrap the gifts. Please keep the value of the gift between \$5 and \$10.

Next Regular Meeting:

Date:

December 13, 2021

Time:

7:30 PM

Place:

Rockville Senior Center,
1150 Carnation Drive Rockville MD

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President's Message December 2021

Holly Heighes

Happy Thanksgiving. Happy Hanukkah. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

As this is my final President message, I would like to say thank you to our Board members, old and new. For as long as I've been on the Board, I've always been impressed by how well the members work together, even in disagreement. Board meetings were something to be looked forward to, not avoided. It is an amazing, good humored, and cooperative group where everyone's contributions far exceeded their 'job' descriptions.

Jeff Cessna and Germaine Broussard will be leaving the Board. Thanks to Jeff, we learned how entertaining meeting minutes can be, and of course his contributions went well beyond record keeping. Germaine stepped in when we were having difficulty finding a field trip chairperson; we appreciate her willingness to help us out in a role that was new to her.

Dan Kohn, Patricia Cronin, and Diane Leaman will be joining our Board for the first time. Dan has been extremely helpful to the club over the past couple of years, maintaining our website, consulting on technical issues, and in many other ways. Patricia Cronin has agreed to serve as club Secretary and has already contributed in that role filling in for Jeff as needed. Patricia's strength and common sense are apparent and valued. Diane has agreed to be our Treasurer, an indispensable position, and we are thrilled to have her take on this role.

Pat Repik-Byrne, Karen Lottes, and Gary Leaman are coming back to the Board after a hiatus. Pat was our Show Chairperson a few years ago and we are thrilled she has re-joined the Board as our Vice President. Karen and Gary were previous Board members, and even though their terms had expired, they continued to attend Board meetings and help in a variety of ways. We are fortunate to have them back on the Board as 'at large' members for 2022.

Jonathan Harris and Ken Reynolds are staying on the Board, Jonathan moving from Treasurer to President, and Ken Reynolds from VP to 'at large.' Thanks, guys, for everything you have done and continue to do for the club.

Joel Rosen (Property Manager), Doug Baum (Membership Chair), Andy Celmer (EFMLS liaison), Dave Tiktinsky (Show Chair), and Chris Luzier (Show Chair) will stay on in their current positions. These five stalwarts keep the club running smoothly and ensure the success of our future meetings and show. Thank you. Their contributions, if listed, would exceed the length of this newsletter.

Where would we be without our Editor? Thank you, Olivia, for crafting *The Rockhounder* each month. We are in your debt. Mark Dahlman will once again head our youth program, the Future Rockhounds of America, the future of our club.

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President's Message December 2021 (Cont'd)

Holly Heighes

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Thank you to all our club members for everything you have done to support the club and me personally, be it at our show, an auction, or at a meeting. You rock.

It has been an honor to serve as the President of such a fantastic and vibrant organization, and being a member of this club has enriched my life in ways I could not have imagined. Thank you all for your friendship and support, for sharing your knowledge and interests, and for all the laughs.

GLMSMC Meeting Minutes from November 8, 2021

Jeff Cessna, Secretary

The November 8, 2021 meeting was opened by Vice President Ken Reynolds at 7:53 PM. There were approximately 30 people in attendance (25 adults, 5 juniors). A motion passed to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2021 regular meeting. A motion passed to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2021 BOD meeting.

Vice President: Ken Reynolds welcomed attendees. He is filling in for President Holly Heighes. He requested members follow the COVID precautions of the Senior Center. Guests were welcomed to introduce themselves. The BOD meeting will be held on Zoom. Any member is welcome to attend. Contact Jonathan Harris for Zoom link. The next meeting will be the holiday party. Please bring finger foods. There will be a gift swap; bring a wrapped gift of \$5-\$10 value labelled mineral, fossil, or lapidary to participate. Mask will still be required when not actively eating.

Election: Ken read the slate of election candidates, as published in the October Rockhounder:

President: Jonathan Harris

Vice President: Pat Repik-Byrne

Treasurer: Diane Leaman

Secretary: Patricia Cronin

He called for any nomination from the floor, hearing none. It was M/S/P to accept the slate of officers. Ken thanked the officers-elect for stepping up to help the club.

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GLMSMC Meeting Minutes from November 8, 2021 (Cont'd)

Jeff Cessna, Secretary

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Treasurer: Jonathan Harris reported there were no transactions this month.

Membership: Doug Baum introduced himself to potential members. He welcomed back recently approved members.

Show: The 2022 show is planned for March 19-20. Dave Tiktinsky has received replies from a majority of dealers, all but one returning.

EFMLS Liaison: Chris Luzier gave information supplied by Andy Celmer about the upcoming Friends of Mineralogy, PA, Chapter 2021 Symposium. It will be a hybrid meeting with in-person portion in Lancaster, PA, on Saturday. Sunday will include a field trip open only to participants. FM-VA is looking for assistance to create educational rock kits, looking for stories or information on trap rock quarries of northern Virginia, and looking to partner with local quarries for education. He announced upcoming shows, including the Morris Museum Mineralogical Society (November 26-28) show in Morristown, NJ.

Linda Smith brought gypsum specimens from a closed mine in Grand Rapids, MI, for giveaway.

Program: Ken Reynolds introduced our speaker for the evening, club member Jeff Nagy. The talk was entitled "The History of Chromite Mines of Montgomery County, Maryland." Jeff presented the history and localities of Chromite mining in Montgomery County, Maryland, from 1820 to 1865. Chromite was used in textile dying process, as pigments, in tanning, and in refractories. Chrome Yellow (think school bus) and green from Baltimore were highly prized. Chromite, in the spinel family, is found in the serpentine belt running through Maryland. Jeff introduced the people associated with local mining. Most prominent was Isaac Tyson, Jr., father of American Chrome industry. Also involved were Dr. Washington Waters and Col. Lyde Griffith. He took us on a tour of mining locations, including photos of recently rediscovered localities. Jeff knew he was in the right place, as the area just looked "miney." Jeff thanked club members Gary and Diane Leaman and, especially, Francis Becker, a relative of Griffith. Francis supplied a family mining journal that assisted in research. Thanks, Jeff.

Show table and door prizes were administered by Joel Rosen.

Adjournment: It was M/S/P to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 PM.



GLSMC BOD Meeting Minutes from November 15, 2021

Jeff Cessna, Secretary

Board Members Present: Doug Baum, Andy Celmer, Jeff Cessna, Jonathan Harris, Holly Heighes, Chris Luzier, Ken Reynolds, Joel Rosen, and Dave Tiktinsky. **Guests Present:** Patricia Cronin, Dan Kohn, Gary Leaman, Diane Leaman, Karen Lottes, and Pat Repik-Byrne.

President Holly Heighes called the November 15th meeting to order at 8:00 PM.

Holiday Party: Requests were made for volunteers to bring supplies. Andy Celmer and Ken Reynolds will bring soda. Doug Baum will bring water. Chris Luzier will bring ice and a cooler. Jonathan Harris will bring an additional cooler and the paper plates, cups, cutlery, and leftover containers in the club bin. Pat Repik-Byrne will bring table cloths. Jonathan will prepare thank you letters for the Senior Center staff. Table arrangement will be the same as in the past.

Show: Dave Tiktinsky has heard back from all dealers. Two have now indicated they will not return. Following club procedures, dealers will be contacted from the club waiting lists for the categories needed to maintain the desired balance of offerings. Reducing the number of tables to provide additional space was discussed; however, long-time dealers plan for fixed table positions.

Programs: Ken Reynolds will assist with finding speakers for the January and February meetings. Chris Luzier offered a new presentation focusing on daylight willemite. Chris will contact our usual March speaker, Jeff Post.

Meetings: Additional outreach would be useful for those who attend meetings to participate in the FRA program now that meetings have returned to in-person. The FRA information will be included in the reminder email. Jonathan will check the website to see if FRA information is up to date.

The need for a December BOD meeting was discussed. The only open item is budget. Retaining the Zoom format for the near future was discussed with some Board members preferring the format, especially to reduce driving time and deer strikes. The decision was left to the incoming Board. The meeting platform subscription has run out. January BOD meeting will be held on Zoom.

Treasurer: Jonathan Harris reported that the budget is pretty much the same as in the past. As in the past, Joel requested additional money for door prizes.

Membership: Doug Baum announced that paid memberships stood at 136 (117 adult and 19 junior).

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GLSMC BOD Meeting Minutes from November 15, 2021

Jeff Cessna, Secretary

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In accordance with the recently revised and adopted by-laws, at-large BOD memberships have been offered in lieu of officer positions who cannot attend BOD meetings.

Doug made a recommendation to bestow a Lifetime Membership to Holly Heighes for her years of service and dedication to GLSMC and its activities. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed.

Holly thanked the members of the Board, the incoming officers, and active members, including Dan Kohn and Karen Lottes.

It was M/S/P to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 PM. In reference to Lifetime Membership, Holly got the last words as the Zoom meeting timed out: "I am honored."

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

Mark Dahlman

Next Meeting Date: December 13th **Meeting Time:** 7:45-9:00 PM

Meeting Location: Sunroom Cafeteria at the Rockville Senior Center

November 8th Meeting:

We completed the Fossils badge and decided our next badge will be the Showmanship badge. Part of the Showmanship badge requires a public exhibit, so we also decided to do a group display for our club show in the spring. The theme of the group exhibit will be FRA members' favorite specimens which will allow all FRA members to participate.

December 13th Meeting:

Our December meeting is not only the Holiday Party (don't forget to bring some finger food to share with the club), but also our annual Yankee Swap (FRA members do not need to bring anything for this). We'll also have information about entering individual exhibits at our show. All individual junior exhibits are eligible for the very generous Lillian Turner Award prizes. See you soon!

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



Holly Heighes' Lifetime Membership

Chris Luzier

Thank you, Holly!

The GLMSMC owes a great debt to Holly Heighes, who has been a stalwart figure in our group and has always been ready to help and volunteer for whatever was needed. She was our FRA coordinator for many years and helped with so many of our Junior members through the years, along with setting up and managing the Kid's Table and Mini Mine at our annual show. She has been our Treasurer and has most recently as President, helped to see us through navigating the pandemic with our show and meeting cancellations. She has helped us by working with new technology, running our Zoom presentations so we could still stay in touch and have regular meetings and Board meetings. She has always been a tremendous help with our show, auctions, and working behind the scenes with so many aspects.

Because of all of her distinguished and wonderful service to our mineral group, the Board has unanimously voted to honor and thank her by awarding Holly with our Life Member designation! This award has not been given very frequently and the Board wanted to let her and the GLMSMC membership know how appreciative and thankful we are for her service to our group! More than that, though, we are all grateful for her friendship, caring, and sense of humor that she provides to us all. Thanks so much again, Holly!!

Gratefully-- Chris Luzier

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

Upcoming Shows

GLMSMC holiday party

December 13, 2021

7:45pm

Rockville Senior Center, Rockville MD

Our holiday party will occur as usual with the addition of the mask requirement while we are not eating.

Food - Please bring a potluck dish, the club will provide paper goods & drinks.

Sale / Swap - Members can bring up to two flats of minerals to sell or swap if they wish.

Gift exchange - If you wish to participate, bring a wrapped mineral, fossil, or lapidary item in the \$5-\$10 range. Please only specify which of the three categories it is on the outside to maintain the surprise.



Pictures from our 2017 party. Who is under the tarp?





Upcoming Shows



56th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show

Date/Time: **March 19-20, 2022 Saturday 10-6, Sunday 11-5**

Location: **Montgomery County Fairgrounds; Building #6**
16 Chestnut St. Gaithersburg MD 20877

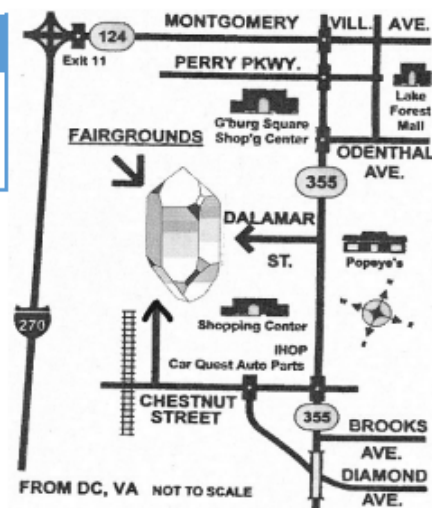
Featuring:

Hourly Door Prizes
 Gold Panning
 Fluorescent Minerals
 Raffle Prizes
 Free Parking

20+ Vendors of minerals, beads, fossils, gems & jewelry
 40+ Exhibits by club members - including junior exhibits
 Learn to make a gemstone in the shop
 Mini Mine, Free minerals & activities for children
 Demonstrations of Faceting, Beading, Jewelry Making, Physics

Children (11 and under) Free! Ages 12 and over \$6
 Scouts in Uniform Free! 4H youth with 4H identification Free!
 More info at: www.glmsmc.com

**Show this flyer for
 \$1 off admission price**
 (applies to each member in your group)





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, 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/>

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Award Winning Bulletin
EFMLS, AFMS



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