



The Rockhounder

October 2022

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 by Monday, October 31st, 2022.

Regular Meeting Announcements

Pat Repik-Byrne, Vice President

October Speaker Information

Date: October 10, 2022

Speaker: Mubarek Allumani

Title: Ethiopian Opals

Mr. Mubarek Allumani is an opals dealer who travels to various rock and gem shows to sell Ethiopian gems, including different varieties of opals. He is originally from Ethiopia and had lived in the United States for 26 years when he visited Ethiopia on a fateful trip in 2015. During that trip, he met up with a person he had worked with in his father's store, whose wife had become famous for her opals and gemstones business in Ethiopia. Upon sharing her experience and expertise with opals with Mr. Allumani, she encouraged him to get into the opals business in the U.S.A.

His presentation will address the characteristics of Ethiopian opals and the play of colors observed in Ethiopian opals. He will also bring along specimens to show.

His presentation and discussion of this beautiful and alluring gemstone is sure to be captivating, so please plan to come.

Next Regular Meeting:

Date: October 10th, 2022

Time: 7:30 PM

Place:

Rockville Senior Center,
1150 Carnation Drive Rockville MD

Next Board of Directors Meeting:

Date: October 17th, 2022

Time: 8 PM

Place:

Virtual (online Zoom meeting)

Inside this issue:

| Item | Page |
|--|------|
| Meeting Announcements, Speaker Info | 1 |
| President's Message, Regular Minutes | 2 |
| BOD Meeting Minutes | 4 |
| Show Table | 7 |
| FRA Meeting Minutes, Slate of Officers | 8 |
| Upcoming Shows | 9 |



President's Message

Jonathan Harris

Hello Fellow Rockhounds:

Fall has started. Thanks to the many people who made our September picnic a great success.

Many brought food, while others spent time acquiring, storing, and preparing the specimens for auction. And our auctioneers worked hard to get us finished before the rain.

Finally, thanks go to George Bednar and his family for the generous donation, which will assure the minerals will continue to delight and educate others.

If you are still hungry for more specimens or materials, we will continue to auction quality lapidary material at our upcoming meetings. We also have numerous gem and mineral shows happening over the next several months. Check out the rest of the Rockhounder for announcements about these shows, our upcoming general meeting speaker and youth program, and other activities.

We will also announce a field trip to the Penn-MD Quarry with slots for seven people.

Cheers, Jonathan

GLMSMC Regular Meeting Minutes from September 12, 2022

Secretary Patricia Cronin

There were 35 people in attendance. Vice President Pat Repik-Byrne called the meeting to order. The minutes of last months' meeting s were approved. Updates will be made to the club website.

Membership

Doug announced that name-tag pins are ready for several members. There will be no increase in dues in 2022. Term of membership will be from January until December.

Welcome to our newest member, Shayan Montazeri, who is especially interested in mineral specimens. There were no visitors this month.

Continued on page 3



GLMSMC Regular Meeting Minutes from September 12, 2022

Secretary Patricia Cronin

Continued from page 2

Treasury

Diane stated that our club is financially in the black and a down payment for our 2023 show has been made to the fairgrounds.

Our annual picnic will be held on Sunday September 25 at Griffith Park in Gaithersburg. Please sign up online for what food you will bring to the pot-luck lunch. Chris will send an email flyer to remind all of the details.

Our guest speaker tonight was Dr. Bob Farrar, a retired FDA entomologist.

Dr. Farrar's talk focused on "Morocco: A Mineral Collector's Paradise." He brought a display of beautiful Moroccan specimens he has collected or purchased.

Casablanca, Marrakesh, and Fez are some of Morocco's most historic and well-known cities. A mountain range forms the spine of the country, where some of the best mineral collecting can be found. Hundreds of pounds of agates from this region are shipped to Tucson each year to be sold at the show. Azurite, Malachite, Vanadinite, Barite, Galena, and Wulfenite are some of the other specimens to be found in the Moroccan mountain ranges.

Dr. Farrar showed slides of some of the mining sites, along with an extremely rustic "hut" occupied by a pair of Moroccan brothers during their mining trips. They lead the tours to the collecting sites where he has found many of his treasures. They have told him that they occasionally see dinosaur footprints in the stone.

The land is legally owned by a French mining company, but their operations ceased many years ago, and so far, they have ignored the rock collectors. Hundreds of men make all or a significant part of their annual income by mining, collecting, and selling their finds. They work for themselves, not any larger entity.

Dr. Farrar also showed slides of the harrowing and precarious hand-operated winch systems used to carry miners into (and out of) their mine pits.

In the higher mountain ranges, 4-wheel drive vehicles and long hikes are needed to locate even rarer minerals– Magnetite, Prehnite, Titanite, and Epidote, for example. Dr. Farrar has purchased some very unusual specimens in this area, including some combinations uncommonly found in single specimens.

Continued on page 4



GLMSMC Regular Meeting Minutes from September 12, 2022

Secretary Patricia Cronin

Continued from page 3

Morocco has a strong tourist industry with very little crime committed on tourists. The tour group Dr. Farrar uses takes small groups of about 8 people, enough for 2 or 3 carloads of rock hunters. In addition to rock collecting, Morocco is a beautiful country with numerous rich cultural areas.

Dr. Farrar's book, *The Collecting Bug: A Rock Collector's Philosophy of Life*, is about his (and our) hobby of collecting rocks, minerals, fossils, and gemstones. It includes information on what to collect, where to collect, why to collect, and how to identify what you find.

Door prizes (see page 7)

Upcoming rock shows (see page 9)

Meeting ended at 9:45 PM.

GLMSMC BOD Meeting Minutes from September 19, 2022

Secretary Patricia Cronin

The meeting commenced at 7:30 PM via Zoom.

Present were Jonathan Harris, Dan Kohn, Doug Baum, Andy Celmer, Gary & Diane Leaman, Joel Rosen, Pat Repik-Byrne, Dave Tiktinsky, Chris Luzier, Karen Lottes, and Patricia Cronin.

Board Secretary Patricia Cronin announced that she would like to be replaced for 2023. The club by-laws state that a term of office is one year, and a position may be held by the same person for a second year. No one may hold the same position for more than 2 years.

Picnic and Auction

The picnic will be held from 11 AM until 3:30 PM. Discussion was held about set-up for the auction. Chris and Jonathan have possession of the auction items and they have done much of the sorting. Chris requests as many items as possible go into the silent auction, due to limited time. We will have approximately 150 lots. About 50 will be in the silent auction.

Continued on page 5



GLMSMC BOD Meeting Minutes from September 19, 2022

Secretary Patricia Cronin

Continued from page 4

Diane has the bidding number panels, sale recording notebooks and other such items. Germaine Broussard and Dee and Jennifer Weiss have donated other auction supplies as well. Jonathan has also held onto any radioactive specimens or any others that need to be stored properly. These will be provided in the near future to collectors who specialize in these types of minerals.

The pavilion does have electricity, but the club will not provide electrical cords or power strips. Chris will email the information flyer again this week. The club has adequate picnic supplies on hand and Board members will also bring other needed items, such as water, coolers, and other drinks.

Sid's Auction

Gary stated that we would like to try and have an auction in early November for Sid's specimens. Sunday, November 6 seems to be the only date that will not conflict with rock shows in our area.

Chris will contact the Senior Center to check availability. It may be possible to rent a room at Leisure World if the Senior Center is not available. Sid has about 100 flats and about 10 large specimens that are single items. This auction will also be open to other area clubs, along with mineral dealers.

Other Club Auctions

The lapidary materials items at the September regular meeting brought excellent returns to the club. Diane will send a check to the donor with her share of the proceeds.

Doree's Materials

These items are an outright donation to the club. Jonathan will contact Doree about scheduling a time for picking up the remaining minerals and items that we could not haul the first time.

There is a very large, extremely heavy 18" rock saw with this collection. Removing it will be a serious problem based on the location and a series of steps out of the residence. Andy will contact Doree or go to the next in-her-home meeting to assess it. He seems to be the only club member interested in purchasing it. A suggestion was made to give the saw to him, as it will probably be dismantled and trashed if not taken by the club.

Wendell's Items

Gary still has some of Wendell's materials that were used in his display case at our last show. These few remaining items will be auctioned at the December holiday party.

Continued on page 6



GLSMC BOD Meeting Minutes from September 19, 2022

Secretary Patricia Cronin

Continued from page 5

Committee Reports

Andy reports that we continue to have no contact with the Eastern Federation. He recommends that we do not re-establish contact unless they allow online voting by club presidents. The Federation's internal political turmoil seems to be at rest currently.

Treasurer

Diane reports that the deposit to the Fairgrounds for the 2023 show has been made. All bills have been paid.

Gary also mentioned that we are catching up on our auction donations.

It was also brought up whether we should raise our membership dues. It is now \$15 per individual or \$20 per family. This is considerably less than dues charged by other nearby clubs. Discussion was held, and it was decided that we are making adequate income from auctions and our present balance in all accounts is healthy. Therefore, it is not necessary to raise the dues at present.

Equipment

Joel stated that all equipment is OK. One case has been lent to the FMVA club for their Virginia Minerals display case that will be used in many shows this show season. This will also have a sign noting that the display case itself was on loan from the GLSMC. The case will be returned to us again at our March show, as FMVA is also one of our demonstrators. This project was implemented by Gary and Chris on behalf of FMVA.

Program

Pat Repik-Byrne announced that speakers for November and December have been scheduled. December will have no speaker, due to the holiday party. Pat is now working on scheduling for January and February. Pat would like to offer an honorarium to speakers to pay for food and gasoline. Some speakers drive 2 hours or more to get here. In some clubs, Board members take the speaker to dinner before the meeting. This would be especially helpful, as there are a few nice restaurants near our location and finding one may be difficult for out-of-town folks. There is money in the club budget for a speaker honorarium, and it was decided that offering an honorarium should be left to Pat's discretion.

2023 Show

Dave will contact dealers to see if they are ready to schedule for 2023. There may be some concern about our low 2022 show attendance. In March, COVID lockdowns had just ended and few children had been vaccinated.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.



Show Table from September 12, 2022

***indicates self-collected*

Show Table

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Jeff Cessna | Quartz | Westphalia, MO., Rehobeth, DE. |
| " " | Fluorite/Pyrite | El Hamman Mine, Morocco |
| Tom Parnell | Prehnite | Atlas Mtns., Morocco |
| Dan Kohn | Cabochons | Wildacres |
| Dave Hennessey | Vanadanite | Mibladen, Morocco |
| Joel Rosen | Fluorite/Calcite | Deming, NM. |
| Pat Repik-Byrne | Vanadanite on Barite | Mibladen, Morocco |
| Doug Baum | Aragonite | Fez, Morocco |
| Gary Leaman | Amethyst Geode | Uruquay |
| Diane Leaman | Pink Amethyst | Patagonia, Argentina |
| Ken Reynolds | Blue Barite, Vanadinite | Morocco |
| Dave Fryauff | Corundum | Mysore District, India |
| Karen Lottes | Quartz | Lehigh Gorge, PA. |
| Richard Ernst | Vanadinite | Mibladen, Morocco |
| Judith Belkin | Vanadanite | Taonz Mine, Morocco |
| Germaine Broussard | Aragonite/Vanadanite | Morocco |
| Priscilla Quackenbush | Wild Garnets | Maryland |

Door Prizes

Show Table:

Morganite, Quartz
Hadden Neck, Middlesex County, CT
Won by Dave Fryauff

General:

Calcite on Galena
Miami, OK
(Ex- Jack Nelson collection)
Won by Germaine Broussard

Tucson Poster:

Minerals of the Andes
(Donated from Wendell Mohr)
Won by Chris Luzier



Future Rockhounds of America (The MOCKS) Ages 9-16

Mark Dahlman

Next Meeting Date: October 10th **Meeting Time:** 7:45-9:00 PM

Meeting Location: Sunroom Cafeteria at the Rockville Senior Center

September 12th Meeting:

Continuing with our Rocks & Minerals badge, we reviewed the use of hardness, color, and luster in the identification of mineral samples. We spent most of the meeting unwrapping and mounting Excellent thumbnail specimens collected, packaged, and sent to us from our very generous benefactor out west, Mr. Patrick Haynes. Everyone went home with many new self-mounted specimens for their collection. Thank you once again Mr. Haynes!

October 10th Meeting:

We will discuss other physical properties that we can use to help identify minerals, and we'll do Another activity for the Rocks & Minerals badge. Of course, we will have specimens for every FRA member to take home for their collection too.

Feel free to bring a friend. I hope to see you all there!

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

Slate of Officers for 2023

President- Jonathan Harris

Vice President- Pat Repik-Byrne

Secretary- Germaine Broussard

Treasurer- Diane Leaman

Follow us on Facebook at

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



Upcoming Shows

5th Annual South Jersey Gem, Jewelry, Mineral & Fossil Show

Date: October 8 - 9, 2022

Location: 1721 Springdale Road Cherry Hill, NJ 08054

Show Times: Saturday (10/8/22) 10:00 am - 6:00 pm & Sunday (10/9/22)
10:00am - 4:00pm

Website: www.sjmineralshow.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/sjmineralshow

Mineral Treasures Outdoor Show 2022

Sponsored by the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society

St. Michael's Grove
400 Jacobs St.
Mont Clare, PA 19453

Saturday, Oct 8
10am to 6 pm

Minerals, Fossils and Gem sales on
Grounds and in Pavilion

Kids' Activities and Free
Specimens

Snack Bar and Picnic Grounds

Free Parking and Indoor
Restrooms

Admission: \$5 per adult
Under 13 free
Scouts in uniform free

www.phillyrocks.org



Upcoming Shows



Presented by The Northern Virginia Mineral Club, Inc. www.novamineralclub.org
Sponsored by the Dept. of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Earth Sciences at GMU

Date: November 19 & 20, 2022

Place: Dewberry Hall, Johnson Center
George Mason University Campus
GPS: 4400 University Dr, Fairfax, VA 22030

Hours: Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 10am-4pm

Admission: Adults: \$6, Seniors: \$4, Teens (13-17): \$3
Children 12 & under & Scouts in uniform are FREE
GMU Students & faculty w/valid ID are FREE.

\$1 OFF

Adult admission
with this card
(applies to all adults
+ seniors in your
group)

Demonstrations, Exhibits, Kids Activities, and Door Prizes.
Mini-mines for children to dig in and get free fossils and minerals.
Approximately 20 Dealers with Gems, Minerals and Fossils for sale.

Use parking Lot A, enter Lot A where adjacent to the Johnson Center
Look for our Courtesy Shuttle & Designated Walking Path to Mineral Show

Tuscarora Lapidary Society Presents

GEMARAMA 2022

One of the largest Fine Gem, Jewelry and Mineral Shows on the East Coast

November 5th: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. November 6th: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Our 53rd Year Theme: A Rainbow of Possibilities

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100 Station Avenue, Oaks, PA 19456

One coupon good for discounts for your entire family!

Donation – \$6 • With this coupon – \$5 • Two-Day Ticket – \$9 • Children under 12 yrs. – \$1

To receive our emails for discount coupons, show, course, and workshop information, please enter

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- Demonstrations
- Exhibits
- Dealers
- Free Parking
- Food
- Children's Activities
- Gems • Jewelry
- Beads
- Fossils • Minerals
- Findings & More!


For information or to purchase tickets:
www.lapidary.org/gemarama





Upcoming Shows

FLUORESCENT MINERAL SHOW
32nd Annual Show on SAT., OCT. 29



ULTRAVIOLATION 2022

The Rock and Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County presents this unique fluorescent mineral show and sale at the First United Methodist Church,
840 Trenton Rd, in Fairless Hills, PA 19030.
Only 2 miles from the new Route 295 and 10 miles from the Philadelphia/Rt 1 exit of the Pa Turnpike

Saturday, October 29, 2022
9am to 4pm

Alternating Periods of Room Darkness and Light

UV Lamps for Sale!

Fluorescent Mineral Displays

Door Prizes. Snacks and beverages available

\$3.00 admission; All kids under 12 free with paying adult

For Dealer information call Lee McIlvaine at 215.713.8020
or email uvgeologist@yahoo.com; \$30 per 8 ft table



Upcoming Shows

Continued from page 16

SOUTHERN MARYLAND ROCK, MINERAL, AND FOSSIL SHOW SATURDAY NOVEMBER 5, 2022

9 am to 4 pm

OLD WALDORF SCHOOL

3074 CRAIN HIGHWAY (Rt 301), WALDORF MD 20601

(next to JayCees Hall)

**ADMISSION DONATION: ADULTS \$5.00, SENIORS (65+) \$4.00,
JUNIORS (17-7) \$3.00, UNDER 7 FREE**

THE HOLIDAYS ARE COMINGSTOP BY, WE HAVE LOTS OF
🎁 UNIQUE GIFTS 🎁**

**FREE PARKING * DOOR PRIZES * OVER 45 TABLES
*ROCKS *CRYSTALS *FOSSILS *HANDCRAFTED JEWELRY
*LAPIDARY *MINERALS *FLUORESCENT TENT *DISPLAYS**



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Jonathan Harris

Vice President – Pat Repik-Byrne

Secretary – Patricia Cronin

Treasurer – Diane Leaman

Membership Chairman – Doug Baum

Downstairs Showchair – Chris Luzier

Upstairs Showchair – Dave Tiktinsky

Property Manager – Joel Rosen

EFMLS Liaison – Andy Celmer

At Large Board Members – Ken Reynolds, Karen Lottes, Gary Leaman, Dan Kohn

NON-BOARD POSITIONS

Field Trip Chairman – Sam Linton

Immediate Past President – Holly Heighes

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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