



The Rockhounder

February 2023

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 February issue of The Rockhounder to Editor Olivia Luzier at editor@glmsmc.com by Sunday, February 26th, 2023.

Regular Meeting Announcements

Pat Repik-Byrne, Vice President

February Speaker Information

Date: February 13, 2023

Speaker: Germaine Broussard

Title: “Life 101: What Do You Have? Where is It? Who Knows About It?”

Fellow GLMSMC member Germaine Broussard’s interest in rocks and minerals is consistent with her lifelong quest for knowledge and to teach the next generation about ROCKS by working with children of various ages to spark their interest in geology, mineralogy, gemology, and paleontology. From dinosaurs to diamonds, she strives to impart a broad range of information that appeals to various ages and genders. It may not be cool for a teenage girl to discuss dinosaurs, but a necklace of coprolite that gets compliments and emojis is very cool. The reward of a 4-year-old wanting to make a trip to Hawaii because volcanos are making new igneous rocks to collect or for a shy, insecure teenage girl to correct her science teacher by explaining that granite is a composite rock made up of minerals—not in itself a mineral— is worth more than any rock, mineral, or fossil!

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Next Regular Meeting:

Date: February 13th, 2023

Time: 7:30 PM

Place:

Rockville Senior Center,
1150 Carnation Drive Rockville MD

Next Board of Directors Meeting:

BOD meeting already occurred on
February 6th.

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February Speaker Information (Cont'd)

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Ms. Broussard is the Founder/President of TroopTreats, a 501(c)3 non-profit charity. She started by baking cookies for U.S. military troops stationed in harm's way, earning her the name "The Cookie Lady" amongst troops stationed around the world. TroopTreats has provided thousands upon thousands of cookies to our troops since that time. Since 2003, Trooptreats.com has also provided packages of necessities to our military personnel in war zones and motorized wheel chairs to veterans in need here at home.

In her professional life, Germaine is an Arete Wealth Management Financial Advisor, Financial Planning Specialist, and Portfolio Manager. She has worked in the financial securities industry since 1993, with a focus on life-planning for persons in and near retirement. Germaine will be presenting a unique seminar which addresses important issues faced by almost everyone, such as caring for an elderly parent, raising grandchildren, death of a spouse, estate planning strategies, trusts and other issues that require attention. Importantly, her presentation will include a focus on mineral collections and other collectibles that are of special interest to club members.

President's Message

Jonathan Harris

There is quite a bit to do in February and March. If you haven't done so yet, please send in your exhibit forms to Chris (see his announcement in his recent email). That way he can get the exhibits well organized. Also, do remember to sign up to help at the show; our membership is what makes the show a success.

February 13th and March 13th are our general meetings. See the announcements in the Rockhounder for the exciting details.

Last, but not least: Please remember it is now time for membership dues for 2023. We are now on a calendar year dues schedule. (See page 6 for membership information.)

Cheers,
----Jonathan



GLSMC Regular Meeting Minutes from January 9th, 2023

The meeting commenced at 7:43 PM with 38 adults and 9 youth.

It was M/S/P for the Board meeting minutes along with the Regular Meeting Minutes from the December meeting that were amended. The amended part was brought forward by Patricia that we needed to add the following that was mentioned by Jonathan, "We have been having many email problems with member emails being flagged as spam and sent to the spam folder. Please check your spam folder and add the email as not spam. This is especially bad with Comcast email addresses."

Jonathan mentioned our upcoming auction on February 11th and the logistics and arrangements for the auction. He also mentioned the show on March 18th & 19th and Chris picked up with the show as well. Publicity for the show was discussed, including more of an online presence and social media, combined with local publicity as well like the Washington Post weekend section and other local upcoming events calendars. Dave Tiktinsky also commented that we were at capacity for the dealers again.

Doug Baum followed up that he only has 33 years to go as the Membership Chair to tie Nancy Ballard's record in that position! Go Doug!!! He also commented that we also had quite a number of visitor guests tonight and they had a brief introduction. He also explained that the membership timeframe was also extended in 2022 because of Covid. The membership from last year was valid until January 1st of 2023, which is the now the new start date for membership renewals.

Andy Celmer gave the rundown of upcoming shows and events, including the Delaware Show on March 4th & 5th, our show on March 18th & 19th and our upcoming February auction, as mentioned earlier. Joel also gave a rundown to guests and new members how the Show Table and Door Prizes worked and the show in general. Chris also announced that the Baltimore Bead Society Show was on this weekend and he would be there passing out fliers for our show as well.

Jonathan then turned the floor over to Pat Repik-Byrne to introduce our evening's speaker, Mr. Tim Morgan and his wife Michelle, also in attendance. Tim spoke about the upcoming Wildacres sessions in North Carolina, presented by the EFMLS. The classes offered and the Wildacres information will also be emailed out to the entire GLSMC membership. The dates are May 15th-21st. See the EFMLS website for details and the classes offered. Tim also spoke about the classes that he teaches on gemology that are offered. There is an upcoming session that starts the week after the January meeting. If you miss this session they are offered again as well. Tim is an excellent teacher and jewelry maker from the rough stone to a finished piece!

Tim's presentation was on Chrysoberyl (which has nothing at all to do with beryl). It is the third hardest gemstone on earth at an 8.5 on the Moh's scale of hardness and comes in three types: Alexandrites, Chrysoberyl & Cat's Eye. It is a beryllium aluminum oxide and its name is derived from ancient Greek -*Chryso* for "golden" and -*beryl* for "brilliance." It is very durable and can be used in any form of jewelry, with the emerald color being the most sought after color. For the cats-eye variety,

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GLMSMC Regular Meeting Minutes from January 9th, 2023

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milk and honey is the most precious. (This is where one side of the cats-eye slit is darker than the opposite side.) The best alexandrite color is bright green, which goes for exorbitant amounts of money. Chrysoberyl are known for their crystalline twinning that develop incredible patterns. The cleavage properties are also poor in these, which makes them excellent for faceting since they do not fracture on cleavage planes very readily. It is also best for the stones to be "eye-clean" which means one cannot see any inclusions with a 10x loupe. They also are known for their fascinating pleochroism (many colors) that specimens show in various types of interior lighting and daylight conditions as well. The same stone can exhibit totally different colors and hues, based on whether it is viewed with a halogen, incandescent, or daylight bulb. A sincerely incredible stone...

Doug Baum also mentioned at the end of the meeting that Marco, one of our visitors for the evening, had applied to join the group tonight. It was M/S/P to accept Marco as a new member and we are grateful to have so many new members in the past year!

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Luzier on behalf of Germaine Broussard

GLMSMC BOD Meeting Minutes from January 23rd, 2023

Submitted by Germaine Broussard

Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM.

Present: Jonathan Harris, Gary and Diane Leaman, Karen Lottes, Andrew Celmer, Holly Heighes, Pat Repik-Byrne, Dave Tiktinsky, Dan Kohn, Joel Rosen, Doug Baum, Germaine Broussard, and Chris Luzier. First for the evening was the budget discussion and approval of the budget. The show door prizes budget was increased from \$70 to \$100. The Zoom expenses were raised to \$150.00, as the service price has increased. The tables for the dealers for the show had been raised \$10.00 per table by the Board in 2022 to help augment the increasing prices for table rental, security, and all the other increasing costs to run the show. It was M/S/P to accept the 2023 budget with the changes.

For the upcoming show, promotion was a large topic that was discussed at length. There will be a combination of local (Montgomery County), regional, and national listings and postings of our show. Sites like Patch and the Washington Post weekend section shall be used, along with electronic flier distribution to our show dealers, regional mineral groups, FMVA, and the Virginia Rockhounding site.

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GLMSMC BOD Meeting Minutes from January 23rd, 2023

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Postings on our regional mineral societies websites and Facebook pages are also in the works, along with creating Facebook events postings. On the broader scope, we are listing in online mineral show calendars as well. An informal committee was also created to combine all efforts and ideas. Doug, Jonathan, Karen, and Chris volunteered to work on this committee. Show planning and logistics are going well with a large number of demonstrators lined up and some exhibit cases spoken for. We definitely still need more volunteer sign-ups. Via the member email, Chris will send out the updated sign-up sheets and the needed slots to be filled.

The auction items for Sid's collection on February 11th are also ready and sorted thanks to the monumental effort of Gary and Diane. This has also been well promoted over the Delmarva region and should see a good attendance. It has been heavily promoted through our regional mineral societies, mineral dealers, friends, and on Facebook.

Chris also discussed the lapidary shop and the problems that we are having the volunteer slots filled to just run the lapidary shop. This is over 70, individual 2-hour slots that have to be spoken for, not including the actual volunteers that run and oversee the shop for set-up, the show itself and then clean-up and teardown. It has been a perpetual problem for the last few years, even before Covid. It has been the subject of Board meetings many times before and whether to move forward with the shop or not.

Joel suggested a motion should be made that the shop should just be disbanded. Chris proposed that it would be possible to do a cabochon making demonstration, that could be next to a new faceting demonstration at our show this year. The idea was met with favor and the shop topic was discussed further. In the end, Joel suggested again a motion be made to disband the shop. Andy made the motion, which was seconded and was passed by the Board. It was also decided that two of the Star cab machines that we use in the shop will be retained, along with a 6" trim saw. The other remaining cab machines will be sold at the upcoming March Show on Friday during the show-set-up.

Dave Tiktinsky spoke about the upstairs portion of the show with the dealers. There has been some turnover with the dealers since Covid and it has continued into this year as well. Some have retired due to age, illness, or other circumstances. Our dealer spaces are full again but our long waiting list has gotten considerably shorter in the past two years, since Dave has used them to fill in openings for last years' show and the 2023 show.

Pat also provided the upcoming presenters for our February and March meetings. Germaine Broussard will be the February speaker and Dr. Jeff Post of the Smithsonian Institution will be our March speaker. Doug Baum also provided our latest membership numbers at a total of 167 members. There are 142 adults and 25 youth members as well.

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM.



Message from Our Membership Chair

Doug Baum

NEW MEMBERS: Let's welcome Stephanie & Rocco Pisto from Rockville, Nicholas Matsangakis from Silver Spring, and Byung Yun (Jean) from Rockville.

NAME BADGES: See me at an upcoming meeting. I have many NAME BADGES that were ordered and paid for that I would like to give to you.

2023 MEMBERSHIP DUES: Please see me at an upcoming meeting to pay your 2023 dues or mail a check/cash for \$20 (Family) or \$15 (Individual). Please make checks out to GLMSMC.

The mailing address is Douglas Baum, Membership Chair GLMSMC, 11205 Golden Meadow Court, Germantown MD 20876.

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

Mark Dahlman

Next Meeting Date: February 13th

Meeting Time: 7:45-9:00 PM

Meeting Location: Sunroom Cafeteria at the Rockville Senior Center

January 9th Meeting:

At the January meeting, the group reviewed past exhibits from our club show. We discussed what is important in a good exhibit, how to construct an exhibit for our show, as well as critiquing some of Mr. Dahlman's past entries— all of which satisfies an activity for the Showmanship badge. We also viewed some of the past winners of the Lillian Turner awards, and everyone got an exhibit entry form and a copy of the judging criteria for the awards. The attendees also decided the theme of the FRA group exhibit will be "Blue and Green Minerals."

February 13th Meeting:

At the February meeting we will work on the FRA group exhibit for our club show in March.

Important: Everyone should bring the blue and/or green minerals they'd like to include in the group exhibit. Please bring a label for each specimen with your name on the front or back. Junior exhibits (other than our group exhibit) are eligible for the very generous Lillian Turner awards. The entry forms should be turned in at the February meeting, so everyone interested in doing an individual exhibit should bring their entry form with the title of the exhibit they'd like to enter. Of course, we'll have door prizes for everyone too. 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.



Show Table from January 9th, 2023

Gary Leaman	Lepidolite	Madagascar
Diane Leaman	Carnelian	India
Dave Tiktinsky	Beryl	Maine
Dan Kohn	Picture Jasper, Hematite	Unknown
Pat Repik-Byrne	Tiger Eye	Northern Cape Province
	(Natural & Polished)	South Africa
Joel Rosen	Quartz, var. Amethyst-	Thunder Bay
	"Starburst" crystals	Ontario, Canada
Ken Reynolds	Corundum, var. Ruby	Vietnam & Unknown
Jonathan Harris	Beryl, var. Aquamarine	Turkey
" "	Diaspore (Zultanite)	Nunstan, Afghanistan
Dave Fryauff	Beads!!!	West Africa
Steve Calamuci	Calcite	Hunan, China
Tim White	Possible Meteorite?	Marin, California (Self-Collected)
Betty Francis	Herkimer Diamond	Herkimer, NY
Dog Baum	Hematite & Quartz	England

Door Prizes:

Show Table: Amethyst
Brazil
Won by: Tim White


General Door Prize: Dioptase, Malachite
Tsumeb Mine
Tsumeb, Namibia
Won by: Joel Rosen

Poster: *Won by: Chris Luzier*

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



Upcoming Shows



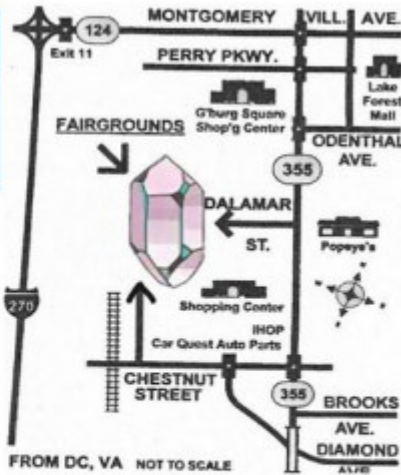
57th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show

Date/Time: **March 18-19, 2023 Saturday 10-6, Sunday 11-5**
Location: **Montgomery County Fairgrounds; Building #6**
16 Chestnut St. Gaithersburg MD 20877

Featuring:

Hourly door prizes	20+ vendors of minerals, beads, fossils, gems, and jewelry
Gold panning	40+ exhibits by club members, including junior exhibits
Fluorescent minerals	Two floors of everything mineral related
Raffle prizes	Mini Mine, free minerals, and activities for children
Free parking	Demonstrations of faceting, micromineralogy, jewelry making, and 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)

33RD ANNUAL NORTH JERSEY GEM, MINERAL, & FOSSIL SHOW

4/15/2023 - 4/16/2023
Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 10am-4pm
<http://www.nojms.webs.com/>
250 Prospect St
Midland Park High School
Midland Park, NJ, 07432



Upcoming Shows

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Delaware Mineralogical Society

March 4-5 2023

Mar 04, 10:00 AM – Mar 05, 5:00 PM

Wilmington, 4727 Concord Pike, Wilmington, DE 19803, USA

New York Gems Jewelry & Mineral Show

3/11/2023 - 3/12/2023

Sat 10:00-6:00 Sun 11:00-5:00

<http://www.barygems.com/>

225 W 24th St

The School of Fashion Industries (Gym 3rd Floor)

New York, NY, 10001

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Upcoming Shows

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**Dealers of Fossils,
Minerals & Lapidary
Supplies**

Exhibits

Saturday, March 4, 2023

10 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Sunday, March 5, 2023

11 A.M. to 5 P.M.

59th
Annual

Gem Mineral & Fossil Show



Same Show Location

**DoubleTree by Hilton
4727 Concord Pike (Rt-202)
Wilmington, DE 19803**

**Adults \$6.00 (\$5.00 w/ Coupon), Seniors \$5.00,
Juniors \$4.00, and children 12 & under and all
scouts in uniform free with Adult.**

Discount Coupon Below or @

www.DMSrocks.org





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Jonathan Harris

Vice President – Pat Repik-Byrne

Secretary – Germaine Broussard

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, George Durland, and Holly Heighes

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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