



# The Rockhounder

March 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 April issue of The Rockhounder to Editor Olivia Luzier at [editor@glmsmc.com](mailto:editor@glmsmc.com) by Sunday, March 27th, 2023.

## Regular Meeting Announcements

Pat Repik-Byrne, Vice President

## March Speaker Information

**Date:** March 13th, 2023

**Speaker:** Jeffrey E. Post, Ph.D.  
*Curator-In-Charge, National Gem and Mineral Collection*  
*Smithsonian Institution*

**Title of Talk:** “Musings of a Mineral Museum Curator”

I am honored to announce Dr. Jeffrey E. Post as the distinguished speaker for the March 13th, 2023 meeting. Dr. Post will discuss highlights at the Smithsonian, along with a review of his experience at the Tucson Gem & Mineral Show this past February, and other news of the Museum.

As a boy, Jeff became interested in minerals and geology at a very early age and continually brought home rocks in his pockets. He was just really fascinated by them. He recalled seeing a beautiful quartz crystal in fourth grade that amplified his interest in minerals and science, and he also owned an awesome chemistry set that made science great fun. Add to that a welcoming local rock shop and lapidary club, some supportive teachers and

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## Next Regular Meeting:

**Date:** March 13th, 2023

**Time:** 7:30 PM

**Place:**

Rockville Senior Center,  
1150 Carnation Drive Rockville MD

## Next Board of Directors Meeting:

There will be no BOD meeting for the month of March, due to the show.

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## January Speaker Information (Cont'd)

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professors, and a passion for minerals, and it seems inevitable that he ended up with a career in science. He shared that he is fortunate that what he does for a job is also his hobby.

Dr. Post is a native of Wisconsin and received his Bachelor of Science degrees in geology and chemistry from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, and his PhD. degree, with a specialty in geochemistry, from Arizona State University. He was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow for three years in the Department of Geological Sciences at Harvard University prior to joining the Department of Mineral Sciences at the Smithsonian Institution in 1984. Since 1991, he has served as Mineralogist and is Curator-In-Charge of Gems and Minerals of the U.S. National Gem and Mineral Collection at the Smithsonian Institution. His research interests include environmental mineralogy, single crystal and X-ray diffraction, manganese oxide minerals, clay minerals, computer modeling of mineral structures, and gemology. He has published more than 100 scientific articles in these fields.

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## President's Message

Jonathan Harris

Hello, fellow Rockhounds. Spring is around the corner. So is our show. A great thanks to all of those who have volunteered to help make our show the best! We can still use more people for the mini mine, admissions, and hospitality table. No special knowledge is required, and we can provide adequate direction rather quickly. Please reach out to Chris to sign up for slots (see prior emails).

Also, as we approach our show date, please make sure to spread the news and keep tagging our show (<https://www.facebook.com/events/860421848570409>) on Facebook so we can draw more visitors.

See the rest of *The Rockhounder* for news about upcoming events, especially our upcoming program featuring Dr. Jeffrey Post, Mineralogist and Curator-In-Charge of Gems and Minerals of the U.S. National Gem and Mineral Collection at the Smithsonian Institution. Expect some fascinating stories about the specimens in the Smithsonian's collection and some of the behind-the-scenes work that goes into creating the fabulous exhibits. How many Smithsonian employees does it take to create an exhibit with a huge Arkansas Quartz Crystal Slab? Many, many more than it takes to screw in a lightbulb as we learned from Dr. Post's fascinating story of how they moved and prepared the exhibit

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## **President's Message (Cont'd)**

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shown in [our Facebook posting linked here](#).

Germaine's February presentation prompted me to prepare notes for my sons and brother, concerning the location of key documents and my database record of my collection before leaving for Southern Chile to deal with a summertime blizzard, penguins, and pumas. Most importantly, I included information on the location of the UV lights and table cloths we need for the show.

I look forward to seeing you all at the show in a couple of weeks.

Cheers,

----Jonathan

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## **GLSMC Regular Meeting Minutes from February 16th, 2023**

Germaine Broussard

Meeting called to order at 7:45 PM with most of the business meeting devoted to the upcoming rock and mineral show at the Gaithersburg Fairgrounds on March 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. The club is always looking for more volunteers to help with the show. Friday set-up looks quite good for volunteers, but Sunday takedown could definitely use more volunteers.

Treasurer Diane said that the club did well with Sid's auction and thanked everyone who participated. Jonathan thanked Diane and Gary for all of their work with setting up and organizing the auction. (Great job!)

Doug Baum also commented said that he had plenty of name badges that members had ordered and to please pick them up from him. Karen said that she had not checked the P.O. box before the meeting, but would check it. If dues had been mailed to the box, they would be included next month. Doree and Marjorie, who had donated lapidary machines and cutting material, attended the meeting and were welcomed.

We also had some new visitors to the meeting with Joyce, Avery, Betty, and Rose in attendance. We

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### GLMSMC Regular Meeting Minutes from February 16th, 2023

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welcome them and hope they will join the group. Since we have had a number of visitors and new members join recently, Joel explained the door prizes and show table that we have every meeting. (Registering on the sign-up sheet to show off your mineral or related item gets a ticket for the prize drawing. Members must stay until the end of the meeting for the drawings and be present to win. An impressive rutiled quartz was the show table prize, and the door prize was a beautiful pendant that was donated by one of our show dealers.)

Doug, another member who works at the Patuxent River Park, said that they are in need of a volunteer to teach the local geological history of the park.

Show planning is going well with many exhibit cases spoken for. Some new demonstrators signed up, including the Baltimore Bead Society and the Reel Amethyst Mine in North Carolina. Chris also showed the sharks' teeth and the grape agate from Indonesia that were purchased for the Junior Quiz prizes at the show. Show flyers were available at the meeting and the exhibitor, along with demonstrator forms also.

Pat Repik-Byrne introduced the evening's speaker, Germaine Broussard, who started off by asking if anyone had gotten any good bargains at the auction? She followed up and asked if there were any items in their own collections that would also be sold, given away, or thrown away because no one knew what they were or any other information about them?

Many times collectors will not tell anyone what they really paid for their items or what they are worth! She knew some people that would wait until their spouse was away to bring home new purchases!

Her talk was called "What Do You Have, Where Is It, And Who Knows About It?" It was initially based on her own family experiences, but has grown to include examples of mistakes she has seen people make over the years. One was a story in the news of a purchase of a gold clock for \$14,000, with the intention of melting it. When researched, it was learned it was a Faberge egg given by the Czar to his wife, worth 3 million dollars!

Germaine also gave everyone a handout packet to fill out and keep, with sections on documents, collections, and contacts, to name a few. A list on the back for password reminders should come in handy also! She said if anyone has questions or any other ideas, please get in touch with her! Get friends and family involved with your love of collecting! Otherwise, whoever inherits will not have the same passion and will think nothing of selling it or even throwing it away!

After the break, Pat also announced that the speaker for April will do a presentation on the Hunting Hill Quarry. Joel also presented the show table and then commenced with drawings for this and the door prize.

The meeting was well attended with 37 adults and 8 youth members and was adjourned at 9:45.



### GLMSMC BOD Meeting Minutes from February 6th, 2023

Germaine Broussard

This rescheduled Board meeting was called to order on February 6 at 7:30 PM. This was rescheduled for earlier in the month as Jonathan would be out of town for the regularly scheduled Board meeting date.

Most of the meeting was devoted to the rock auction the following week and the upcoming rock show at the Gaithersburg Fairgrounds on March 18 and 19.

We are waiting on the invoice/hours breakdown for the security company so they can be paid. The ATM machine, the tables, and chair rentals have all been taken care of and paid for the rock show, along with the Fairgrounds rental as well. All of the dealer tables have been booked and paid for by the dealers.

Treasurer Diane said that the Federal taxes have been filed and MD were being completed. She said that the last auction did very well and the club is doing well.

Property manager Joel said that there was shop equipment in the back of the trailer, which will be reviewed and disposed of when the trailer is unloaded. Bonfire, anyone?

The last meeting, a discussion was had and a motion was made to dispose of the lapidary shop machines. Two would be kept for the cabbing demonstrations. Several suggestions were made, including auctioning them off or selling them at the rock show. They are all in good shape and had maintenance before they were stored. The sale will allow them to be removed from the property inventory—and free up space! They are to be made available to the members first on Friday set-up at the show and if any are left over, they will be offered to the public when the show closes on Sunday, around 4 PM. If a member is not able to be at the sale, they must find their own proxy to bid.

Floor pads and the excess old show display cases will be looked at as well. Inventory of the old cases will be taken and a decision will be made on how many will be sold, depending how many are used for the show. The goal is to be able to consolidate and possibly just have one trailer.

It was discussed again to have the computers at the front table for registration. This being worked on for the show. We would need a place/stand for the computers to be set-up, as this was an issue the last time they were used.

**Membership Chair Doug—** Thank you to Andy for updating the membership cards, especially the 20 year expiration ones!

**Publicity for the show—** Dave sent the electronic copy of the show flyers to the vendors for promotion. Jonathan sent out show flyers and auction notices as well. Many other sites have been used for show promotion this year and this will continue. Many regional shows have had flyers distributed

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## GLSMC BOD Meeting Minutes from February 6th, 2023

Germaine Broussard

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since early November of 2022. Other places/sites were mentioned to advertise: DC, VA, MD, along with possibly PA and the VA Rockhounding site that is slated for release in mid-February. MSDC has also advertised the show on their page, as has the NOVA Facebook page. There has been a lot of interest from the GLSMC Facebook page also!

Pat spoke about the Hunting Hill open house. She said Jeff Post is going to be the speaker for the March 13th meeting, just before the show. We are looking very forward to seeing him again!

Joel moved to adjourn, seconded by Germaine. Meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM.

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

Mark Dahlman

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

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

### **February 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting:**

Our February FRA meeting was dedicated to working on our group exhibit for the club show. (Taking part in the group exhibit satisfies one of the Showmanship badge activities.) FRA members brought their blue and green minerals for the exhibit and decided on the information to display in the group case. Thanks to Nicole for leading the effort to create our group exhibit!

### **March 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting:**

At our March meeting, we'll do any exhibit work needed from the group. Please remember to bring the information you promised to write for the FRA group exhibit. For anyone entering an individual exhibit, remember that exhibit set-up is from 12-6 PM on Friday, March 17th. We'll answer any exhibit questions anyone has at our March meeting, and as time allows, we'll continue the Rocks and Minerals badge activities. 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.



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## 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.

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## Gemology Classes

Tim Morgan

Gemology classes offered by Montgomery County Department of Recreation will begin Wednesday, April 12th (Advanced) and Thursday, April 13th. Classes begin at 10 AM and end at 12 noon.

Anyone interested in either class may register through [Activemontgomery.org](https://www.activemontgomery.org), STEAM programs, Gemology. Tim Morgan is instructor for both classes.

Follow us on Facebook at  
[https://www.facebook.com/  
groups/984241208329511/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/984241208329511/)



## Show Table from February 13th, 2023

Jeff Cessna	Chalcedony, Dendrites	Marshal, Albany Co., WY
" "	Calcite, Willemite	Third Plain Zinc Mine, Australia
David Balenson	Azurite	Ural Mountains, Russia
" "	Geode	Unknown
" "	Unknown-Any ideas?	Mexico
Tom Parnell	Grossular Garnet(Self-Collected)	Hunting Hill Quarry, Rockville, MD
Diane Leaman	Marcasite & Quartz	Mexico
Gary Leaman	Lazulite	Graves Mountain, Georgia
Frances Becker	Ferns	St. Clair, PA
Dan Kohn	Ruby in Zoisite & Turritella	
Richard Ernst	Malachite/ Azurite	Bisbee, AZ
Doug Baum	Pyrite	Peru
Jonathan Harris	Topaz	North Conway, NH
" "	Aquamarine	Gilgit Mine, Pakistan
Joyce Buttrey	Herkimer Diamond in Matrix	Herkimer, NY(gift from a friend)
Germaine Broussard	Blue John Fluorite	England
Dave Fryauff	Sussexite/Zincite(Self-Collected)	Sterling Hill Mine
Ken Reynolds	Fluorite Tourmaline	Mexico -- Maine
Karen Lottes	Grape Agate Agatized Shell	Indonesia and Gift
Marco Molinaro	Garnet	Portola, CA
Chris Luzier	Native Copper	Adams County, PA
Rosie Hayden	Mystery pink stone	Rockville Area
" "	(2)Gemstone Necklaces	
Donald Greaves	Ammonite Section	Dubkovsky Mine, Saratov, Russia

## Door Prizes

**Show Table:** Smoky Quartz


*Won by Daniel Kohn*

**General:** Coral pendant

*Won by Germaine Broussard*



## Upcoming Shows



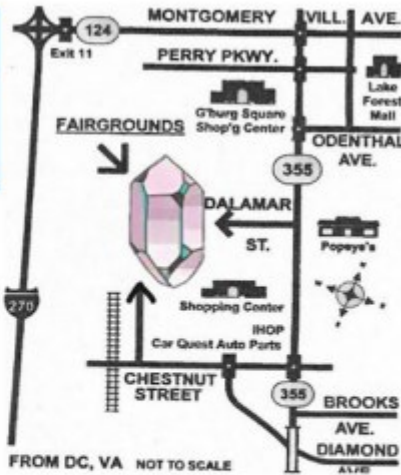
### 57th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show

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](http://www.glmsmc.com)



FROM DC, VA NOT TO SCALE

**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

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## Upcoming Shows

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**WE'RE BACK! The Philadelphia Mineralogical Society and  
The Delaware Valley Paleontological Society present a joint show**

# **Mineral Treasures and Fossil Fair 2023**

**LuLu Temple  
5140 Butler Pike  
Plymouth Meeting PA**

**Saturday, March 25  
10am to 5 pm  
Sunday, March 26  
10 am to 4 pm**

**Just 2 miles from the Norristown exit of the PA Turnpike!**

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## **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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**THE ROCK & MINERAL CLUB  
OF LOWER BUCKS COUNTY, PA  
PRESENTS**

**The Earth Science Show & Sale**

**May 13, 2023  
8:30 AM to 3:00  
PM**

**LOCATION:**  
Christ United Methodist Church  
501 Wistar Road, Fairless Hills, PA 19030

**Rocks, Minerals, Fossils, Lapidary Arts, Jewelry &  
All Things Related to the Earth Sciences**

**Admission: \$2.00 Donation, Children 12 & Under Free**  
**Dealers: 6' Table \$20,**

**Registration & Prepayment is Required**

**Send Check to: Brian Schwab, 539 Sycamore Ave., Croydon, PA 19021,  
Payable to RMCLBC. For Info. Text Brian at 267-201-7104 or call and  
leave a message.**

**<https://sites.google.com/view/lowerbucksparocks/home>  
<https://www.facebook.com/rockclublowerbucksco/>**



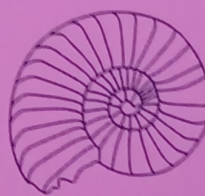
## Upcoming Shows

*Continued from page 11*

# 4th Annual South Jersey OUTDOOR Gem, Jewelry, Mineral & Fossil Show

Date: April 29, 2023

(Rain Date: April 30, 2023)



The Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey Annex Building  
(1721 Springdale Road Cherry Hill, NJ 08003)

### Show Hours:

SATURDAY ONLY: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

~ 16 Dealers ~ Door Prizes ~ Refreshments

### Admission:

Adult: \$4.00; Children (6-17): \$3.00;

Children under 5 & Scouts in uniform: Free

\*Receive \$1 off any adult admission ticket with this flyer.

[sjmineralshow.com](http://sjmineralshow.com) \* [sjmineralshow@gmail.com](mailto:sjmineralshow@gmail.com)



## 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](mailto:editor@glmsmc.com).

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Award Winning Bulletin  
EFMLS, AFMS



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