



The Rockhounder

November 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 December issue of The Rockhounder to Editor Olivia Luzier at editor@glmsmc.com by Monday, November 27th, 2023.

Regular Meeting Announcements

Pat Repik-Byrne, Vice President

November Speaker Information

Date: November 13th, 2023

Speakers: Dan and Linda Kohn

Title of Talk: “Wildacres Retreats”

Dan and Linda Kohn have been members of the GLMSMC since they moved to Maryland in 2019. They were born and raised in New York City and met just after they graduated from different high schools. Coincidentally, they were enrolled in the same college. They took a Geology class together and that began a lifetime interest in rocks, minerals, and fossils. They bought their first specimen on a trip to California in 1980, a slice of petrified wood that they still have on display.

They joined their first EFMLS Mineral & Lapidary club in New Jersey in 2004 and currently are members of several clubs locally in Maryland and Washington, D.C., in addition to the Montgomery County club. They began taking Gemology classes weekly with Tim Morgan last winter and have enjoyed expanding their knowledge of gems, rocks, and minerals.

Dan enjoys faceting and cutting and polishing

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Next Regular Meeting:

Date: November 13th, 2023

Time: 7:30 PM

Place:

Rockville Senior Center,
1150 Carnation Drive Rockville MD

Next Board of Directors Meeting:

Date: November 20th, 2023

Time: 7:30 PM

Place: Virtual (online Zoom meeting)

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October Speaker Information (Cont'd)

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cabochons. Linda has recently started wire wrapping cabochons and teaching basic wire wrapping at another club. Faceting, cabling, and wire wrapping are some of the skills they first learned by attending classes at Wildacres Retreat. Wildacres Retreat is a non-profit retreat and conference center located in Little Switzerland, North Carolina, that serves other non-profit groups conducting educational or cultural programs on topics such as music, art, science, pottery, lapidary, interfaith dialogue, quilting, and creative writing. (Wildacres Retreat takes group reservations only).

Dan and Linda will describe the facility and some of the interesting classes they've taken over the past several years and will outline the requirements for attendance. They will also display some of their creations, such as jewelry and sculptural items, among others.

Please plan to attend our November meeting to learn more about this renowned facility and the interesting educational opportunities it offers.

President's Message

Jonathan Harris

Hello fellow rockhounds.

It is time to locate your surplus specimens and bring them to our November meeting to auction or sell. Please see Chris' email about the auction for more details. In order for the auction to run smoothly and for us to meet our obligation to leave the room by 10 PM, it is important to read and follow the instructions, including the advanced preparation. Before the auction, Dan and Linda will also share their experience at the Wild Acres Lapidary School.

On another note, we are still seeking someone to replace me as President. Please see me or any of the other Board members if you are interested in taking on the role of President.

As the winter approaches, we still have several shows and events in the area. Please see pages 8-11 of The Rockhounder for details.

Cheers,
----Jonathan



Regular Meeting Minutes from October 9th, 2023

Germaine Broussard

The meeting was started at 7:44 PM and a motion was made to accept the September Regular and Board meeting minutes, MSP.

Officers that rotate out after two year terms:

President- Jonathan Harris

Vice President- Pat Repik-Byrne

Treasurer- Diane Leaman

Secretary- Germaine Broussard

Doug asked for visitors to the meeting and for them to tell a little about themselves. One of the guests was from GTC Rock Shop in Frederick. She said the store was going to have a grand opening of the second store front, which is their educational section. They even have a paleontologist on staff to identify items!

Joel reported on the trailer and said there appeared to be no water leaks! There was one section which seemed to be from the vent on the top which allows moisture to escape. There was no water damage after the new caulking was applied.

Diane reported that we did well at the auction.

There was to be a possible field trip the following Saturday, but there was rain expected so be prepared for possible cancellation.

For federation shows, Andy reported that there was to be an auction in Chesapeake— This will be the last auction of the season, in Catonsville/Ellicott City. The viewing is at 7 PM with the auction starting at 7:30 PM. The flyers were in the front of the room.

Our speaker, Bernie Emery, showed a video of Oregon Sunstone, a feldspar, triclinic crystal dichroic stone, as well as the different mines, their owners, and their equipment. The colors of the stone are normally red inside and green outside.

Our speaker also mentioned that there had been a find in China. It was actually andesine that had been processed. The center is green with red on the outside.

The slides were amazing! The photos showing the gemstones were gorgeous!

A question was asked about faceted, fantasy, and carved stones. The amount of time to carve a stone can be extremely time-and-labor-intensive and takes much more time than even faceting a stone.

After the break, a vote was taken to accept new members. The new members were accepted, MSP.

After the show and tell portion of the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 9:47 PM.



Regular Meeting Minutes from October 16th, 2023

Germaine Broussard

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 PM.

Items on the agenda:

1. Member auction
2. Donation of wulfenite
3. Search for new officers

A Wulfenite donation was made to GLMSMC by Ann Sanfacon for her uncle, John Sanfacon, who is well known by many long-time members. The donation will help to support the excitement and education of rock and mineral collecting that we all share, no matter the age or knowledge levels. A letter of thanks was sent.

A discussion was held whether or not to include the donation in the member auction or hold it until later. It was decided to split it up into batches of ten or twelve for upcoming events, including the member auction/sale at the November regular meeting.

For the member auction, it was decided to allow two flats, one for auction and one for sale or swap with other individual members— but only one flat for the auction. If the items are for the members, the winning bidders will pay the sellers directly. PLEASE also bring small bills for making change!

Items for club donation will be taken care of with the auction forms and the donation proceeds will be accepted by the Treasurer from the bidders. The ten wulfenite pieces will be managed this way as well, with the proceeds going to the club.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to “have member auction allow one flat priced for sale and one flat for auction at member’s discretion.” Please also have the bid slips and minimum bid amount needed, well before the auction/ meeting!

Club Show Update:

Flyers are done and distribution has started! They will be distributed at the Ultraviolation Show, Richmond Swap and Sell, the NoVA show (on Nov 18-19), and the upcoming show in Lebanon, Pa.

Dave T. said that the dealer contracts have been sent and requests to find out who are returning for the 2024 show.

It was also asked that the exhibitor showcases with displays have the name and title on a card placed on top of the case. A question was asked about the printed show programs that had previously been at shows. Chris mentioned that we used to do 900 programs and that almost all of them were leftover at the end of the show. After a number of years of this, it was decided to not produce them anymore,

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Regular Meeting Minutes from October 16th, 2023

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as they are a lot of inputting work. Chris offered to print about 200 for the 2024 show, as he still has the template.

We are up to date for deposits for the fairgrounds and the contract.

Dave said he hopes we are more stable with the dealers than last year. Illness and such have limited the dealers for traveling. The entrance ticket price will not be raised this year. A motion to raise the ticket price by one dollar per person was passed last year, but the flyers and notices were already printed. The motion passed last year will carry over to next year for the one dollar per person increase to help cover increasing show costs in the past two years.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Diane reported that we had done well at the auction and are doing well with all the bills paid.

The Board needs to make decision on donations at the November Board meeting. Most groups receiving donations need funds received by a certain date. The group will also need new laptops, one for the Vice President and one for the Treasurer, as the VP one is not functional anymore and the other is outdated. Pat has been using her personal laptop for the meeting presentations. The new equipment needs to be checked to make sure it matches up with the projector and other equipment.

Property Manager: Property Manager Joel reported that he, Chris, and Jonathan sealed the trailer top and interior seams. It seems to be water-tight! Good job!

Dave: Nothing more to report.

Pat: The program for November will be Dan and Linda Kohn, with lapidary creations and the Wildacres program. This will also be the member auction/sale meeting, with no Show Table.

Germaine: See the minutes.

Ken: More mineral shows are coming up through November.

We are still looking for a candidate for the new incoming President. All of the other three offices of Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary have candidates that will be voted on at the November Regular meeting. They will be listed again in the November Rockhounder.

On a side note, Germaine mentioned a program on HLN called Forensic Files. One of the shows episodes centered on Front Royal, VA. The guilty party was caught because of the azurite and malachite found in his wheel wells from the quarry up the Shenandoah River!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 PM.



Proposed Slate of Officers for January 2024

President— TBD

Vice President— Heather Vineyard

Treasurer— Jonathan Harris

Secretary— Jeff Cessna

Please reach out to any current Board member if you would like to volunteer to fill the President position. Thank you for your consideration.

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

Mark Dahlman

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

Meeting Location: Sunroom Cafeteria at the Rockville Senior Center

October 9th Meeting:

The October meeting started off with awarding of badges to members who hadn't been at the September meeting. We continued the Gold Panning and Prospecting badge with a presentation on gold uses, gold purity, colored gold, gold specimens, and common terms for gold used in jewelry. As usual, everyone went home with a new mineral specimen for their collections.

November 13th Meeting:

We'll learn about where and how to find Montgomery County gold, see some huge finds, and talk about some history and other gold-related topics. 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 October 9th, 2023

Jeff Cessna	FL Quartz Xtl	Alaotra-Mangoro, Madagascar
" "	Loellingite	Sterling Hill Mine, NJ
" "	Sphalerite/Willemite	Sterling Hill Mine, NJ
Reed Owens	Lithops- "Living Rock"	South Africa
Frances Becker	Calcite	Hanover, PA
Doug Baum	Fluorite	England
Dan Kohn	Amazonite	Morefield Mine, VA
Linda Kohn	Garden Quartz Cab	Brazil
Gary Leaman	Native Silver	Cobalt, Ontario, Canada
Diane Leaman	Hyalite	Spruce Pine, NC
David Tiktinsky	Meteorite	Morocco
Corrine Wilson	Calcite	Los, Greece (Self-Collected)
Eric Durland	Sodalite	Canada
Dave Fryauff	Calcite, Pyrite	French Creek Iron Mines, PA
Jonathan Harris	Rodingite/Garnet	Hunting Hill, Rockville, MD
Dee Weiss	Salt	Dead Sea
" "	Hunting Hill Quarry Specimen	Hunting Hill, Rockville, MD
Marco Molinaro	Coalingite, Garnet	Hunting Hill, Rockville, MD
Tom Parnell	Herkimer Diamonds	Little Falls, NY (Self-Collected)
Joel Rosen	Apatite, Fluorite & Calcite	Fission Mine, Harcourt
		Ontario/Canada
Germaine Broussard	Amazonite	Amelia, VA
Rose Hayden	Ruby, Zoisite, Kyanite, Green Sapphire, Agate (Lapidary/jewelry)	Unknown

Door Prizes:

Show Table: Calcite

Hunan Province, China

Won by: Dee Weiss

General Door Prize: Chrysanthemum Stone

Won by: Richard Ernst

Follow us on Facebook at
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/984241208329511/>



Upcoming Shows

With this ad, \$1.00 off General Admission

2023

GEM MINER'S HOLIDAY!!

November 18-19

LEBANON, PA

Beads! Findings!

Minerals! Fossils!

Gems & Jewelry!

THE MID-ATLANTIC'S BEST SHOW

GIFT AND CRAFT RELATED ITEMS

RETAIL AND WHOLESALE EXHIBITORS

HOURLY DOOR PRIZES & GRAND PRIZE DRAWING

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

SATURDAY 10AM-5PM; SUNDAY 11AM-4PM

\$6 ADMISSION - CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE

LEBANON VALLEY EXPO, LEBANON PA

80 ROCHERTY RD

LEBANON PA 17042

WWW.GEM-SHOW.COM

(SEE WEBSITE FOR UPDATES)

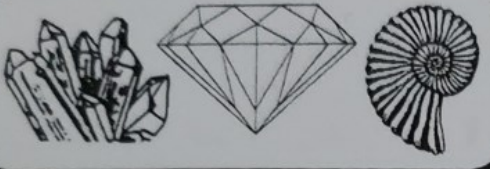
(301) 807-9745





Upcoming Shows

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**31st Annual
GEM, MINERAL
AND FOSSIL SHOW**

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

Date: November 18 & 19, 2023

Place: Dewberry Hall, Johnson Center
George Mason University - Fairfax Campus
GPS: www.bit.ly/3fBZfh8 (Lot A)

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

Admission: Adults: \$6, Seniors: \$4, Teens (13-17): \$3
Children 12 & under, accompanied by adult are FREE
GMU Students & Faculty w/valid ID are FREE.
Scouts in uniform 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 @ Mattaponi River Lane off Patriot Circle
Look for our Courtesy Shuttle & Designated Walking Path to Mineral Show*

Roanoke Valley Mineral and Gem Society Show

11/24/2023 - 11/26/2023

Fri 2:00-7:00 Sat 10:00-6:00 Sun 12:00-5:00

<https://www.rvmgs.org/>

1001 Roanoke Boulevard

Salem Civic Center


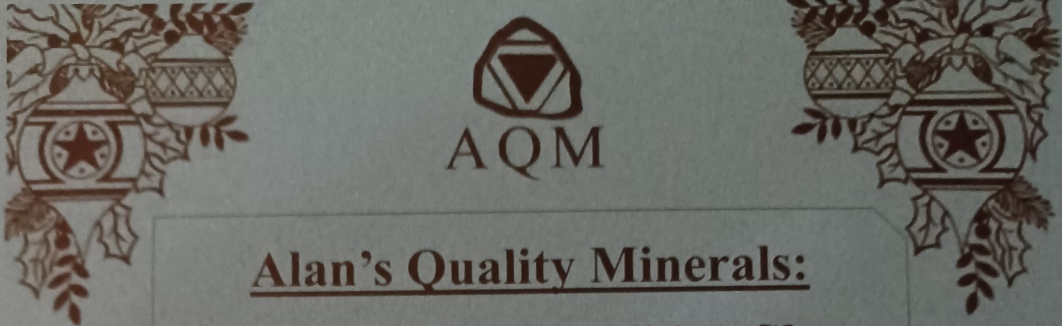
Salem, VA, 24153

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Upcoming Shows

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Alan's Quality Minerals:
Gem & Mineral Holiday Show




Date: December 9, 2023

Saturday **ONLY**: 10am – 6pm

Show Location:
Springhill Suites Hotel:
Conference Room
5000 Midlantic Drive
Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

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- FREE Admission -
- Worldwide Minerals & Crystals -
- Light Refreshments -
- Quality Specimens for all Collectors -



~ [www.alansqualityminerals.com](http://www.alansqualityminerals.com) ~

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## Upcoming Shows

Continued from page 10



### 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show

Date/Time: March 16-17, 2024 Saturday 10-6 and 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

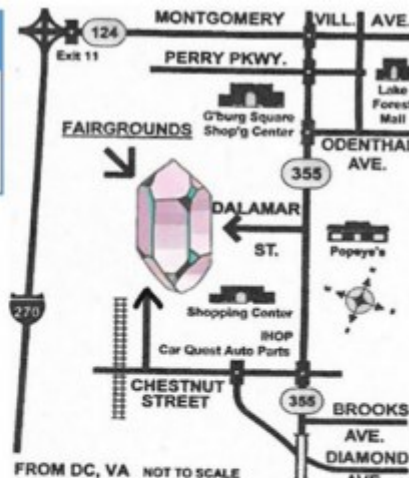
20+ vendors of minerals, beads, fossils, gems, and jewelry

40+ exhibits by club members, including junior exhibits

Two floors of everything mineral related

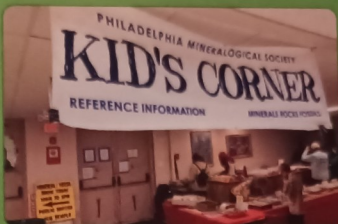
Mini Mine, free minerals, and activities for children

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

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

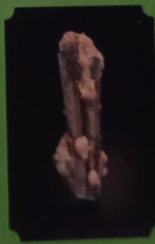


The Philadelphia Mineralogical Society and  
The Delaware Valley Paleontological Society present a joint show

## Mineral Treasures and Fossil Fair 2024



Saturday, March 23  
10am to 5 pm  
Sunday, March 24  
10 am to 4 pm



LuLu Temple  
5140 Butler Pike  
Plymouth Meeting PA  
Just 2 miles from the Norristown  
exit of the PA Turnpike!



### 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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