

Earth Day is Saturday,
April 22nd



THE REGULAR MEETING of the Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Montgomery County MD., Inc. will be held on Monday April 10th in the dining room of the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, in Rockville. The business meeting will begin at 7:45 PM but the room is available to us at 7:30 PM so come early and see what you and others have on the Show Table and chat with old friends. The program by Ray Stanford, amateur paleontologist, of College Park MD is titled "Dinosaur Footprints". Guests are welcome.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS will meet on Monday April 17th at 7:30 PM at the home of David and Nancy Ballard. Any member is welcome to attend but please let Nancy know if you plan to attend.

ROSTER UPDATE Returning members:

Long, Richard, 30 Allenhurst Court, Gaithersburg MD 20878-1990, rk.long@comcast.net, 301 926 0313
Zellers, Charles, 415 Hermleigh Road, Silver Spring MD 20902-1605, zellersC@HQ.NIDDK.NIH.GOV, 301 681 8885

Welcome new members:

Ciletti, Michael and Brooks, Barbara, 20007 Hob Hill Way, Montgomery Village MD, 20886-1306,
Michael: mcvitaman@aol.com, Barbara: metermau@aol.com. 301 948 8490

Post, Jeffrey and Ann, 19804 Shady Brook Way, Gaithersburg MD 20879-4533, 301 869 5110,
Post.Jeffrey@NMNH.si.edu

Alison, SCIENCE FAIR WINNER, Marissa

Wuerstlin, Oscar and Barbara, 17005 Clear Creek Drive, Silver Spring MD 20905-5143

Changes:

Bratton, Bob, E Mail vetascien@netscape.com

Loud, George, E Mail gloud@comcast.net

Vance, Paul, E Mail pdayv12@msn.com



THE 42nd GEM-MINERAL-FOSSIL SHOW was a great success. Nancy Ballard reports 1603 paid admissions (1381 in 2005). This does not include GLMSMC members who worked at the show, dealers, demonstrators, children under 12, and 54 Girl Scouts and 28 Boy Scouts with their leaders. Raffle winners were Jeff Guerber of Vienna VA (Lot #1), Eli Leizeron, Silver Spring MD (Lot #2), and Barrie Richards of New Carrollton MD (Lot #3). Lois Ritchie reports that 232 people polished a cabochon in the workshop (175 last year). A Junior exhibitor was selected by a group of judges, led by President, Scott Braley to receive the Lillian Turner Award, a \$100 U.S. savings bond. Our deep appreciation to Show Chairman, Harvey Lindenbaum. His tenure was marked by improvements in the show workings. Although he was unable to attend this year's show, we all deeply appreciate his work in lining up dealers, making arrangements for chairs, tables, security and facilities.



Thanks for your service, Harvey. With this show only a pleasant memory, we look forward to

March 17 & 18, 2007. Who wants to volunteer for Show chairmanship? Why not YOU? See Page 5 for more Show Thanks.

MEMORIES Ed Hitt died at the age of 91 in Conway SC. He was an early member of the Society, known by few of the present day members. Both Ed and his wife worked hard for our group. He was very active in the club's affairs and was the chief electrician for the Annual Show. The enduring legacy from Ed was the design of the show cases for our Show. The "Hitt Cases" were a hit, enduring for many years, and also used by some other clubs. Ed will be remembered for his contributions.

DEADLINE for the May Rockhounder is April 24, 2006

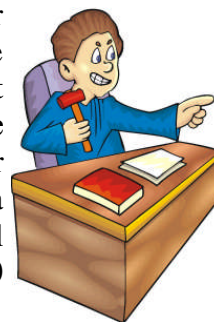


Happy Birthday for April births: Matt Charsky, Edward Cragg, Elsie Durland, Karen Durland, Chris Herbstritt, Sarah Kaider, Anna Marcus, Michele McMurtry, Michael Tihomirov, Sasha Tihomirov, Zhenya Tihomirov, Virginia Vance, and Charles Zellers. Diamond (Girl's best friend, Are forever,) is your Birthstone.



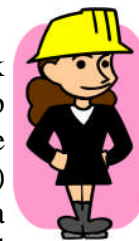
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Information was not received so these are notes taken by your editor. Meeting called to order at 7:50 PM by President Scott Braley, with attendance of about 36 people. Visitors Richard Davies, Nasri Sakram, Michael Ciletti, and Barbara Brooks, were introduced. Michael and Barbara applied for membership. They were accepted to membership unanimously. Signups for volunteer time at the Show were encouraged, with specific emphasis on Workshop by Don Turner. A call was made for people to post show information at area Giant stores and all other places people visit, at work, and to friends and family. Request made for exhibitors to submit Junior Rockhoulder's Quiz questions to Michelle Michaelis, contributions of mineral and fossils for the Give Away table, loan of specimens for the Touch'N'Feel table, and loan of specimens for the Club Meteorite case. Rod Towers introduced the speaker, George Durland, whose presentation was "Photographing Minerals Under White and Ultraviolet Light." George dedicated the talk to Gary Grenier. He discussed hue, saturation, and brightness, and touched on the inability of some colors to be accurately reproduced by films. He uses ASA 100 Ektachrome Professional S slide film for low graininess, and uses a single lens reflex camera, with a macro lens, 100mm, which focuses down to one foot. He uses an ultraviolet haze filter, an 80A filter for use with incandescent lighting, and uses manual settings for best control. He discussed reciprocity failure, the shift in color and brightness at very long exposure times. To keep depth of field, where the subject goes out of focus nearer and farther from the camera, reasonable he uses f 8 as a compromise. His fluorescent pictures are made with short, medium, and long wave Ultraviolet lighting. He brought a self made photographing rig which holds the specimen, the lamps, and has a black cloth backdrop. He explained its use and the need to reduce camera motion. A white light photograph of the same specimen is made with no changes in the camera position. Thanks George for the informative talk.

After a break, the meeting reconvened. Upcoming Field trips were discussed by Wendell Mohr. He also covered the party March 22nd at the Long Branch Nature Center in Arlington VA for Jennie Smith and Fred Scheaffermeyer who are moving from the area. Upcoming club shows and the Patuxent Lapidary Guild Open house were mentioned. Dealer books, "The Smale Collection", and "Fossil Wood: A Closer Look at Ancient Forests" were noted. An application for membership by Oscar and Barbara Wuerstlin was not previously acted upon. They were unanimously voted into membership. Juan Proaño, Treasurer, reported that we are solvent and that dealers had paid for 102 tables rented for the show. Jonathan Harris has taken over as Librarian. Scott mentioned that members need to make use of the library or we should consider abandoning it. The 2006 EFMLS Directory has been released and Scott and Wendell have copies. Members may purchase the directory, a resource for information on what the Federation does, its officers and committees, Wildacres information, other club information, programs, and more. Joel Rosen reported that the trailer is ready to be moved to the fairgrounds Thursday before the set up Friday. Help is needed for take down Sunday evening. Wildacres Workshop was emphasized by Scott. Application forms are available. Jennifer Wingard coordinated GLMSMC judging at the Montgomery Area Science Fair, where one Junior, Allison Post, was awarded a check and membership in our group for her project "Power of Dirt". Show table specimens were discussed by the person exhibiting them. The death of Ed Hitt, former member, was discussed by Nancy Ballard. Door prize, Junior door prize, and Show table prize were awarded. Joel Rosen mentioned that there would be a showcase at the show of the Prizes for the next year. Rod Towers announced that the April speaker will be Ray Stanford on Dinosaur Footprints. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 PM.



MARCH DOOR PRIZES: Show Table, Harold Williams won a Rhodochrosite from Bolognesi Province, Peru. Junior Prize, Sara Kaider won minerals of Alaska. Door Prize, Jo Ann Mohr won a Malachite pendant.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES: The Board did not meet in March



FIELD TRIPS. Our **April 8th** trip to the Morefield Mine, Amelia VA has been **cancelled** for lack of interest. No one signed up. On Saturday, **May 13th** at 11 AM, the GLMSDC is holding a trip there, meeting at the gift shop of the mine to dig, sluice or hunt minerals and if desired, tour the underground mine. All members of any Eastern Federation club with insurance (Which we have) are welcome to attend. The cost of the collecting is \$10 for a bucketful of material and \$15 extra for the underground tour with owner Sam Dunaway. He will give everyone a brief above ground tour and show some of the minerals to be collected. While the mine is famous for the blue green massive amazonite, there are many other minerals to be found, including the rare mica, zinnwaldite, topaz, feldspar, garnet, amethyst and maybe about 50 more minerals. Take a bucket and a lunch. Some vending machines are also available. Wear old clothes as the iron rich soil will stain. If you are going underground, wear appropriate shoes and bring a hard hat. There will be no collecting underground, but it is reportedly well worth seeing. For additional references, see the March, 1999 Lapidary Journal and the November 1997 issue of Rock and Gem Magazine. The Morefield Mine has operated for 70 years. There are pictures and directions at <<http://www.toteshows.com/morefield.html>>. To sign up, contact Cathy Gaber, 301 654 7479, or <bg@his.com>. Let her know if you wish to collect and/or do the underground tour. If you wish to carpool, Cathy will do what she can to facilitate arrangements. The mine is closing on June 3, 2006. Thanks to Cathy Gaber for the information.

April 9th, Sunday, Rockville Quarry, 9:00 AM to Noon or later, \$5.00 fee to collect.

April 22nd, Martin Marietta's Pinesburg Quarry, Williamsport MD, 8:30 AM to Noon.

April 29th, University of Maryland Geology Tour. The University of Maryland will be holding its annual Open House. The Geology Department is extending an invitation to the various clubs in the Washington area to a special tour of their facilities with demonstrations of their equipment and a lecture. The tour includes tours of their spectrograph labs, the "Special lab," a lecture, and a personalized guided tour of their geology museum. Meet at 9:30 AM in front of the Geology building on the University of Maryland Campus. Parking is available in the parking lot adjacent to the Geology Dept. Contact Mary Bateman at 703 521 4614 or at <mbateman1@verizon.net> if you are interested. You must pre-register for this tour as space is limited. Reservations will be taken until April 25 on a first come, first served basis. Again thanks to Cathy Gaber for communicating information.

May 6th, Saturday, Medford Quarry, near Westminster MD, 8:15 AM to ?.

June 17th, Saturday, Medford Quarry, near Westminster MD, 8:15 AM to ?.

July 1st, Mount St. Hillaire, Quebec Province, near Montreal, Canada. \$10 CDN required. Side tours to Herkimer NY for "Herkimer" diamonds (Quartz) and to the Gore Mountain Garnet Mine in the NY Adirondacks.

If you want further information on trips listed, contact Anita Lizas James, E Mail <alizes@gonzaga.org> or alternatively <johnjames04@comcast.net>, or Phone 301 652 5527. Also contact her if you want to be on her E Mail list for notification.



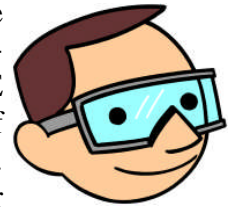
SIMPLE TOOLS

Be Safe, Be Well. A Message From Your Safety Committee

When I talk about simple tools I am not referring to the term teenagers may use to describe their acquaintances that are among the less brilliant. I am talking about tools that most of us use at one time or another. The tools that first come to mind are wedges, chisels and punches made of steel. Because we do use these tools so often, we tend to ignore any hazards associated with their use. Let's talk about that a minute. Get out the punch, steel wedge or cold chisel that you use the most and take a good look at it. First area of concern should be the "Cutting" edge of the tool. Is it sharp and well formed to accomplish the intended task? Often results obtained can be improved by polishing this working area using fine sandpaper or even a buffing wheel. Next look at the part of the tool that you strike with a hammer. This is where many hazards occur. If there is any evidence of "mushrooming", cracking or other damage you must correct this condition. A small piece of metal may be

(Continued on Page 4)

(Continued from Page 3) dislodged from the tool and become a missile, which can penetrate the hand that is holding the tool or bounce back and strike the user in the eye or injure bystanders. For this and other reasons we **MUST ALWAYS WEAR SOME TYPE OF EYE PROTECTION**. Even a wood chisel can create chips, which can irritate the eye. Many of our simple tools are hand made and may require more maintenance than a commercial tool. I imagine that many, if not most of us have made a chisel, punch or stamp for a particular application. Metal selection is the first problem we face. I usually will go through my scrap bin and find a piece of tool steel such as an old file to make my masterpiece. This is perfectly acceptable if we remember that when we do not know what alloy we are using, we are guessing when we try to harden or heat treat the finished tool. You may want to consult "The Complete Metalsmith" by Tim McCreight or another text for guidance. If you really aren't comfortable with this process or if the tool is really important to you, consider talking with your local blacksmith who will probably be willing to share a bit of his or her knowledge. If you are going to make a lot of tools, it could be worth the investment to buy some tool steel. Usually the vendor will furnish information from the steel manufacturer detailing how to harden and heat treat the product.



We should not ignore simple tools made of other materials. There are a variety of non-ferrous materials such as brass, bronze, aluminum, pewter and even lead that are often employed. If you do chasing or repoussé you probably use some of the aforementioned materials as well as wood. We do not use wood to a great degree and that is a pity. Rock maple and dogwood make great tools including hammers (mallets), wood planes and punches. Chasing silver and copper offer many opportunities to make dogwood punches which will show you that some of the "old ways" were excellent. The beauty of dogwood is that it can be used either green or dried with similar results.



If nothing else I hope that I have provoked some thought about simple tools and encouraged some of you to try some different ways of crafting.

By Don Monroe, AFMS Safety Chair

SUNSHINE. Nancy Ballard has completed her scheduled treatments and continues to show a remarkable positive outlook. Mary Beth Mason still needs your prayers for recovery. Jack Busch has returned to his apartment after back surgery with an unwanted extra trip back to the hospital, and hopes to attend the next meeting. Per the Micromounters of the NCA Feb Bulletin. Cynthia Tihomirov was to have surgery and we wish her well.



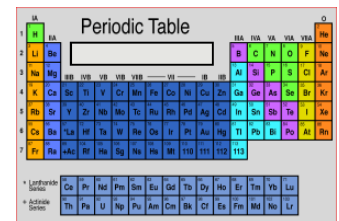
OFFER REPEATED We are sending the Rockhounder by E Mail to those having E Mail. It gives you the chance to receive it, with color, at the earliest possible time. If you do not require a hard copy, it will save the Society the printing and mailing costs. If you want to do this, contact the Editor at <wmohr@erols.com>. Over a dozen members have already availed of this opportunity thus saving printing and postage costs.

MARCH SHOW TABLE:

* = Self collected.

- Scott Braley: Several Quartz specimens from Diamond Hill SC*
- George Durland: Four Fluorescent specimens containing Hardystonite, Calcite, Willemite, Barite, Sphalerite, Esperite, and Clinohedrite from Franklin and Ogdensburg NJ
- Jonathan Harris: Fluorescent Calcite(?), Manassas Quarry*, Fossil, Pinesburg Quarry, Williamsport MD*
- Sarah Kaider: Hydrozincite, blue Short Wave Fluorescent, Locality unknown
- David Kogon: Oil Slate, Bavaria
- Chuck Mason: Agate, Sachsen, Germany
- Wendell Mohr: Tucson Show poster, National Forest Service fossil poster
- Joel Rosen: Willemite, green Fluorescent, Franklin NJ
- Rod Towers: Microscope, Fluorescent Prehnite-Calcite and other specimens
- Hap Williams: Rhodochrosite, Argentina, Quartz & Fluorite, China, Agate, Brazil
- Robert Winfield, Benitoite, San Benito Co., CA

The show table is every month so it is a ⇨



THANK YOU ***** THANK YOU ***** THANK YOU ***** THANK YOU ***** THANK YOU

Key People. The Show was deeply dependent on the leadership of Harvey Lindenbaum, Chairman, who arranged rental of tables & chairs, signed up dealers, and arranged security, Jim Michaelis who took over local leadership, Wendell Mohr, publicity, signs, fliers, photographs, exhibitor and demonstrator certificates, Fran Gallegos, coordinator of exhibitors, Fran's Son, Chuck, who produced the redeemable certificates for use at Dealers, Bob Irby, arranged demonstrations and organized the raffle, Lois Ritchie and Don Turner, workshop leaders, Paul Vance who prepared the pre-forms and taught members how to teach cabbng, Joel Rosen, in charge of the trailer and electrical, Jim and Michelle Michaelis, who championed junior activities and touch'n'feel and give away tables, and the ever faithful Nancy Ballard, volunteer signup, tickets and hospitality table.

Exhibits Thanks to all those who exhibited cases for the education of our guests. See the attached show program. At the last moment Nancy Shinowara arranged to fill a vacant case with material from several dealers. Joel Rosen put together the case of door prize specimens for Society meetings for the next year. Thanks to all members who contributed to the meteorite exhibit coordinated by George Durland. Scott Braley, George Durland, Jonathan Harris, Chuck Mason, the MCPS Gemstones class members of teacher Lisa Carp, Rory McElravy, Jim and Michelle Michaelis, Wendell Mohr, Joe Murter, Rod Towers graciously had multiple cases.

Postcards were designed by Wendell Mohr and he had them printed and cut. Charlie Zellers updated the mailing list database from door prize drawing slip information from the 2005 show and produced mailing labels. Dave and Nancy Ballard put labels and stamps on over 2400 (!) cards and mailed them.

Demonstrators included Micromounters George Loud, Tom Tucker, Joe Murter, and Kathy Hrechka. Due to late information, Tim Miller, Calvert Marine Museum, Miocene Fossils of the Chesapeake Bay region was not listed on the program. Dale Shelton, came Sunday only representing the Maryland Geological Survey. Nancy DeMulder, Montgomery County Public Schools Adult Education Instructor, demonstrated metal arts and jewelry work.

Member Dealers were Lisa Carp, Andy Dietz, and Fred Parker.

Friday Set-up Helpers were Dave and Nancy Ballard, Scott Braley, Allison Durland, Eric Durland, Karen Durland, George Durland, Frances Gallegos, Pat Jayne, Brian Kaider, Robert and Sara LaVilla, Chuck Mason, Rory, Audrey, and Aidan McElravy, Wendell Mohr, Tim Morgan, Juan Proaño, Barry Remer, Lois Ritchie, Joel Rosen, Rod Towers, Don Turner, and Robert Winfield.



Saturday Show Helpers were Dave and Nancy Ballard, Chris Barr, Scott Braley, Leila Campbell, Michael Ciletti, Mary Crosswhite, Eric Durland, George Durland, Karen Durland, Heather Felsen, Frances Gallegos, Jonathan and Susan Harris, Bob Irby, Anita and John James, Pat Jayne, Robert and Sara LaVilla, George Loud, David MacLean, Michell McMurtry, Jim and Michelle Michaelis, Wendell and Jo Ann Mohr, Tim Morgan, Georgia Olmstead, Tom Parnell, Juan Proaño, George Reimherr, Lois Ritchie, Joel Rosen, Nancy Shinowara, Rod Towers, Don Turner, Virginia Vance, Dee and Hap Williams, Robert Winfield, and Charlie Zellers.

Sunday Show Helpers were Dave and Nancy* Ballard, Scott Braley*, Al Bullock, Eric Durland*, George Durland*, Karen Durland*, Jonathan Ertman, Frances Gallegos, Jonathan Harris, Chris Herbsritt, Bob Irby*, Pat Jayne, Brian Kaider, Dayanda Kulathunga, Bob* and Sara* LaVilla, Chuck Mason, Rory and Audrey McElravy, Michele McMurtry, Jim* and Michelle* Michaelis, Wendell and Jo Ann Mohr, Tim Morgan, Georgia Olmstead, Tom Parnell, Juan Proaño*, Lois Ritchie, Rob Robinson*, Joel Rosen*, Lester Schaub, Nancy Shinowara*, David Smith*, Rod Towers*, Don Turner*, Virginia Vance, Dee and Hap Williams, Bob* and Suzanne*, Allesandra*, and Caitlin* Winfield, and Charlie Zellers*.

*Extra special thanks to those who helped take down.

I may have missed some people who helped. If so let me know and we will acknowledge your efforts in the next Rockhounder.

Submitted by Nancy Ballard

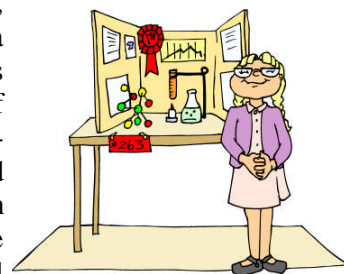
THANK YOU ***** THANK YOU ***** THANK YOU ***** THANK YOU ***** THANK YOU

WHAT I LIKED AT THE GEM AND MINERAL SHOW Within the few hours I was at the Gem and Mineral Show, I was astonished at all the different rocks. The fascinating exhibits also delighted me. You could try different things, and I learned a lot from them. Other than the concessions/cafeteria, I really liked the “Make Your Own” exhibit. I really enjoyed learning how to make the necklace. Another exhibit that I really enjoyed was the one with fluorescent rocks to look at. The rocks were very pretty, and I took my time looking at them carefully. Another reason why I enjoyed the fluorescent rock exhibit was because the rocks came in all sorts of bright, neon colors. I was very interested in that exhibit. I not only liked to look at the fluorescent rocks, but I also liked to look at the rock cases that members made. There were so many cases to look at that it took awhile to see all of them.

After seeing the downstairs, I couldn't wait to see the upstairs as well. I couldn't wait to be able to buy a rock. What I liked about the upstairs was that there were so many choices of rocks to buy. One of the rocks I bought was the malachite. I think that it is very beautiful and green. I bought several more rocks to add to my collection!

Now that I have seen the rock show, I can't wait until next year when I can go again. I believe that this is a great learning experience for kids that want to know more about rocks and minerals, etc. Actually, kids aren't the only ones that might want to learn about rocks, I'm sure that adults would want some more information on rocks as well. As I told you before, I learned a great deal of information on rocks at this show, and I hope that you will have this event for many years after. I also want to persuade more kids to go to this show. Don't forget to bring your parents with you! I'm positive that they will love it as much as you do. I would like to say thank you. Thank you for holding this event for the people that are enthusiastic about rocks. Keep up the good work! By Olivia Carlson, age 10, (Granddaughter of Chuck Mason)

MONTGOMERY AREA SCIENCE FAIR On Saturday March 11th, Joshua King and I attended the 50th Science Fair, at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds, sponsored by *ScienceMONTGOMERY*, a private non-profit organization. Students took on a number of challenging projects but those in the earth sciences division were unfortunately extremely limited. One Junior Division, Grade 6-8, project stood out brilliantly from the pack. The project, entitled “The Power of Dirt” was very well done and nicely presented by Redland Middle School student Alison Post. Her project involved the collection of various soil and sand samples from around the area, solubilizing them, and testing the effect of their dissolution on the pH of water. Miss Post demonstrated a good deal of knowledge in her age group about the different minerals found in the soils and how, if dissolved, could cause an increase or decreased pH. Miss Post also spoke of her interest in horticulture and minerals. Because of her demonstrated interest in the geological sciences and the excellence exemplified in her research project she was awarded a 1st prize “special award” from the GLMSMC. (Incidentally, she also won 1st place in the Earth & Space Sciences category). The prize includes a \$50 check from the GLMSMC and membership in the society to further her interest in geology. A letter will be mailed to Alison inviting her to one of our meetings to discuss her presentation, present her certificate and award, and membership in the society. Since Alison is a junior member, the membership will be extended to include her family: Jeffrey, Ann and Marissa Post.



At the fair, I took the liberty of handing out a few fliers for our show and took a look at the *ScienceMONTGOMER* sign advertising our club as well (As thanks for our contribution at the Iron [Fe₂+] level [\$150]). Many thanks to all who gave their time and effort to the science fair- Wendell Mohr, Scott Braley, and Juan Proaño.

Interacting with the talented youngsters and budding scientists at the fair is a truly rewarding experience and I would highly recommend that others get involved for next years fair. In addition to judges for special awards, the science fair needs other judges from the scientific community for the division awards. Please contact me for more information if you are interested. By Jennifer Wingard, 2006 GLMSMC Science Fair Coordinator.

ROCKHOUNDER CONTRIBUTIONS Anyone may submit a story, a poem, a joke, a drawing, or an article. Write a technical article about a mineral, rock, geological phenomenon. Do a piece on a lapidary technique, jewelry work you have done, or a commentary about something you have observed. How about an article about a month's birthstone, one about your expertise or how you became an expert, a club field trip experience or one about a trip you or your family took? Start now and submit it in the next few months. If Olivia Carlson can do it, so can you!

❖ When near the lake as a child, he wanted to skip stones. Now, he's a club member and never skips stones.

❁ Headline: Deaf mute gets new hearing in quarry trespassing case.

◆ When two egotistical micromounters meet, it's an I for an I.

WEB SITES

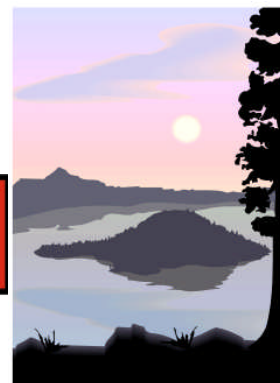
That's the Ticket



Contributed by Wendell C. Mohr

Delaware Valley Earth Science Society, an organization which is in the Maple Shade/Glassboro area of NJ, has its club web site at <<http://www.dvess.org/>>. Take a peak at information about the club and joining it. Over 100 photos appear, including Aurora NC, Trotter Dump at Franklin NJ, and nice pictures of George Powell, who has spoken to our group. Some pictures are of gigantic sized fluorescent minerals. A calendar of activities and Newsletters emerge. Of particular interest is information in the March 2006 issue about the joint effort with other groups of the April 29th & 30th NJESA Gem & Mineral Show, swap and sell, and field trip to the Buckwheat, Sterling Hill, and Trotter dumps. Attendance, by advance registration only, and trip information are shown. Links are worthy of note.

Geology of the National Parks gives you the opportunity to spend hours exploring nooks and crannies at <<http://wrgis.wr.usgs.gov/docs/parks/>>. Surely this is one you will want to return to often to read of Park Geology (Alphabetically, by state, or geologic province), Take virtual trips (Some in 3D require red/cyan glasses), Connections (Which includes Hazards, Landscapes, Projects, and more), and General topics. The latter covers Geologic mapping, Plate tectonics, Rocks and minerals, Geologic time, Glossary, Sand dunes, Glaciers, Shorelines, Earthquakes, Volcanoes, Landslides, and more. The site is a wonderful encyclopedic study. A few of the geologists study the slippage of tectonic plates. Others say this is nothing more than science friction.



Crystal Growing, by Udo J. A. Behner, at <http://www.crystalgrowing.com/index_e.htm>, is a colorful site by a dealer in Wadern, Germany, devoted to, what else?, crystal growing. A few topics yield error 404: Datei nicht gefunden! But other worthwhile categories embrace Bismuth crystals, Lab. grown crystals, Crystal growing kits and chemicals for sale, Crystal Growing Recipes, A respectable Photo gallery, and several sales captions. Noodle around and find European shows and good, mostly European, links. Udo tosses back the smallest crystals to see if they will grow more. It's called a catch and release program. Someone quoted Udo as saying that all his crystals come with a 5 year guarantee against manufacturing defects.

UPCOMING SHOWS:

April 29, 30, Franklin, NJ, N.J. Earth Science Association, 34th Annual Gem and Mineral Show/Outdoor Swap and Sell, 29th, 9 AM-5:30 PM, 30th, 10 AM-5 PM. Franklin School. Contact Fred Stohl, 732-341-3553. Trotter, Buckwheat and Sterling Hill Dig, sponsored by the Delaware Valley Earth Science Society, includes a rare night dig to allow everyone to find the best fluorescent minerals. Sign up and fees are required. See or call George Durland 301 299 8213, or E Mail <GDurland1@Verizon.net> for more details.

May 6-7, 43rd Semi-annual Bead Bazaar of the Bead Society of Greater Washington, Sat. 10 AM-5 PM, Sun. 11 AM-5 PM, North Building, Bolger Center, 9600 Newbridge Drive, off Democracy Boulevard, Potomac MD, Admission \$7.00, Children under 12 free. See <<http://www.beadmuseumdc.org/bazaars.html>> for information and \$1 discount certificate.

May 27, Saturday, 10 AM-4:00 PM, 17th Annual Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Show at Goucher, Goucher College, Towson MD. Take I-695 Exit 27A south on Dulaney Valley Rd. to college entrance. Follow entrance road around to large parking lot adjacent to Kraushaar Auditorium. Show is in auditorium's lobby and covered pavilion. Information: Phyllis Dyer, 410 349 1630, <stevedyer4@juno.com>.

August 5-6. Sat. 10 AM-6 PM, Sun. 10 AM-5 PM, the 57th Annual Gem Show, hosted by The Gem, Lapidary & Mineral Society of Washington, DC. Note new Location: Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart, 9101 Rockville Pike. Adults \$6, Seniors \$5, Children under 16 free with a paid admission. Free Parking. See website for directions to show <<http://www.GLMSDC.com>>.

♣ Sign on dealer's booth: "Why go elsewhere to be cheated, when you can come here?"

★ Man wanted to work in quarry explosives department. Must be willing to travel.

☼ If you go collecting in Arkansas, they have a little rock there.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President-Scott Braley, 19324 Ridgecrest Drive, Germantown MD 20874-1541	301 540 7932
Vice President-Rod Towers, 19609 Gunners Branch. Rd., Germantown MD 20876-2738	301 972 1264
Secretary-Robert Winfield, 544 Beall Avenue, Rockville MD 20850-2105	301 251 6671
Treasurer-Juan Proaño, 8624 Bunnell Drive, Potomac MD 20854-3545	301 299 2034
Junior Advisor-Vacant	
Field Trip Chairperson-Anita Lizas James, 4874 Chevy Chase Dr., Chevy Chase MD 20815-6421	301 652 5527
Membership Chairperson-Frances Gallegos, 4003 Jeffry St., Wheaton MD 20906-4228	301 949 7238
Show Chairman-Vacant	
Property Manager-Joel Rosen, 833 Rampart Way, Union Bridge MD 21791-9325	410 775 7937
Immediate Past President-George Durland, 8600 Bunnell Drive, Potomac MD 20854-3545	301 299 8213
EFMLS Liason-Wendell Mohr, 9509 Emory Grove Road, Gaithersburg MD 20877-3501	301 926 7190
Bulletin Editor- Wendell Mohr, 9509 Emory Grove Road, Gaithersburg MD 20877-3501	301 926 7190

Charter Member: Dan Spielman; Life Members: David Ballard, Nancy Ballard, Jack Busch, Larry Harrison, Anna Marcus, Wendell Mohr, Charlotte Morrison, Dan Spielman, and Paul Vance

Society Address: GLMS of Montgomery County MD., Inc.
P. O. Box 734, Rockville MD 20848-0734

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