

REGULAR MEETING Meetings are held the 2nd Monday of the month from September to June. The Society will next meet on Monday March 9th in the dining room of the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, Rockville. The short business meeting will begin at 7:45 pm but the room is available to us at 7:30 pm so come early to chat and see the Show Table materials. The program will be **“Geofact or Artifact? How Stone Artifacts are Identified”** by one of our newer members, **Michael Miller**. He’d like for members to bring in artifacts they have found for identification. Michael has had an interest in archeology since age 6. a graduate of the College of Wooster and then the University of Exeter, where he obtained his master’s degree, he has done field work in the Eastern US, France, and England. He works for a contract archeology firm in Frederick. Michael is a skilled flintknapper and can replicate numerous types of stone tools.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS will NOT meet in March.

ROSTER CHANGES COLVIN, David & Tyler, Charlotte, Phone 240 388 8618
THOMPSEN, Eric and Melissa, E Mail: melissa@wcc-ip.com



NEW MEMBERS
BURR, Barbara, 13224 Country Ridge Drive, Germantown MD 20874-1141,
301 515 9128, bhburr@juno.com.
BOWMAN, Kathy, 11351 Halethorpe Terrace, Germantown MD 20876-5530.
781 640 3299. Seeral@yahoo.com

FEBRUARY VISITORS Robert Clemenzi and Ann Cameron Siegal

WEATHER ALERT

Reminder: If schools in Montgomery County, MD are to be cancelled, or let out early, because of weather on the day of a scheduled Society meeting, we will have no meeting. Call the Society President or a Board Member (Numbers on the back of the *ROCKHOUNDER*) if in doubt.

POSTAL INCREASE The inexorable MARCH of postal rates upward continues with the announcement of a rate change for one ounce 1st class to \$0.44 effective May 11th. If you get the *Rockhounder* both by mail and E Mail, consider dropping the snail mail version to save the costs of printing and postage. Let your editor know if you choose to go green and save costs.

A new survey says that “Maryland is the state with the most gem deposits of any state in the U.S.” The survey has a margin of error of 100 percent.

DEADLINE for the April 2009 Rockhounder: **Mar. 29th**

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

As our 45th annual show and sale approaches (March 21st and 22nd), I have to hand it to you all for doing a great job getting prepared. This includes having most of the time slots covered for the show. It's a wonderful thing to see the volunteer spirit alive in our club! There are still some spots that we need to fill, though, so if you haven't signed up yet please contact Pat Repik-Byrne to let her know when you can help out.

Of course all of us putting exhibits in the show are getting them ready (if they weren't ready earlier). Once again, let me recommend reviewing the two articles on exhibiting: "It's Easy To Set Up A Showcase" at <http://www.glmsmc.com/Rockhounder/Jan%202008%20Rockhounder.pdf>, see page 3 and "Displaying Your Treasures" at <http://www.glmsmc.com/Rockhounder/Feb%202008%20Rockhounder.pdf>, see page 5. If you do not use email, you can contact me or Wendell Mohr for the information contained in the above web pages. They have excellent tips on showing your material in the most attractive way.

Besides having great exhibits, demonstrators, and a shop on the first floor of the show, we will also be having a silent auction of gems, rough, and interesting odds and ends from Versie Durborow, a long-time society member. Thanks to another long-time member, Sue Marcus, who transported the auction material from the Durborows'. Sue joined our club as a junior and is now a geologist at USGS.

Speaking of our club's connections, Wendell recently contacted the University of Maryland Geology Department and was referred to Dr. Philip Piccoli who was the recipient of one of our GLMSMC scholarships when we ran our own program years ago. No doubt our club's latest efforts for juniors will encourage even more budding scientists.

Let me also mention that we still have a Wildacres sponsorship available this year to reimburse the week's cost for one society member. If you've been a GLMSMC member for a year, you've never been to Wildacres, and you're willing to give our club a presentation or write an article about your Wildacres experience, you are eligible for this sponsorship. Since the workshops fill up first-come, first-served it is a good idea to get your registration in as soon as you can. All we ask is for you to write an article or do a presentation about your experience there. The Spring session is April 17-23, and the Fall session is September 7-13. See <http://www.amfed.org/efmls/wildacres.htm> for additional details. To see a little of the Wildacres experience checkout the Gabers' Wildacres video on YouTube www.youtube.com/watch?v=kac0qhJG00M&feature=channel_page. Please contact me if you are interested in taking advantage of our club's Wildacres sponsorship.

Wildacres is just one of things our Eastern Federation does for us. Another is of particular importance for our field trips - they arrange liability insurance for our club. Recently the previous carrier's rate went up significantly. To keep the premiums that we pay at the old rate, EFMLS found another carrier who can offer the same rates, but requires a \$1000 deductible. The EFMLS board has decided that the EFMLS will fund any deductible so individual clubs will not have to shoulder the cost.

Since 2004 the EFLMS has also encouraged a growing rock swap that is conducted through the mail. Clubs from all over the country participate by offering to trade flat rate boxes of material. Currently the offerings are advertised to the clubs taking part via email alerts. If you are interested in representing our society in this program, please let me know - I'm sure it could be very interesting and rewarding.

Finally, let me mention that the EFMLS is looking for volunteers to chair the following committees: Conservation & Legislation, Club Rockhound of the Year, Junior Activities, and Uniform Rules. If you are curious about any of these positions, please let me or Wendell Mohr know, and we will provide you with additional information.

I hope to see you at our meeting on the 9th!

Mark



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: The February, 9 2009 meeting was called to order by President Mark Dahlman at 7:45 pm, with approximately 62 people attending. Minutes of the January 12, 2009 regular meeting were approved.

President: Mark again called for volunteers for the annual show. Among positions open are the mini-mine and the shop. He announced the new procedure to move the Junior show table and door prize to precede the program.

FRA: Holly McNeil announced that the self-named MOCKS (combining Minerals and rOCKS) Future Rockhounds group has been registered with the AFMS. The evening's program would be Showmanship, including assembly and discussion of a mock (pun intended) display. She thanked David Dinsmore for his donation of a years worth of minerals to be used in the program.

Wendell Mohr announced the silent auction of the first two Mineralogical Record volumes from the Sue Patch donation, which were sold.

Bob Irby brought many magazines and specimens free for the taking. Thanks Bob.

Show: Heather Felsen announced that we had all 20 dealer spaces assigned and paid for. Final arrangements are being made for tables, chairs, and security. George asked for volunteers to place flyers at their local Giant Grocery Stores. Pat Repik-Byrne put out another call for needed exhibits. Submit forms by March 1st.

Speaker: Vice President, Elmer Lantz, introduced the evening speaker, our own George Durland. George was born in Franklin, NJ. His father worked in the lab at the NJ Zinc Company. That allowed for a great collection, half of which George later inherited. The presentation was *Fluorescent Minerals of the World*. We had a thorough introduction to the terms and concepts of fluorescence and fluorescent mineral collecting, as well as George's list of the best localities to find fluorescent minerals. The discussions were followed by an uninterrupted show of Ektachrome slides. We would see George's "ugly rocks" in daylight followed by their colorful transformation in one or more wavelengths of ultraviolet light. Thank you, George.



Ann Cameron Siegal, a free lance writer for the Washington Post, told us of an upcoming article on rockhounds immediately preceding our Show. She solicited stories about our hobby.

Treasurer: Andy Muir gave an update on show dealer payments, encouraged members to encourage friends to attend the show, and stated that our balance sheet was strong.

It was M/S/P to accept membership applications of two new members, Barbara Burr and Kathy Bowman.

Meeting adjourned at 9:54 PM.

Jeff Cessna, Secretary.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES: President Mark Dahlman called the February 16, 2009 meeting to order at 7:31 pm. Board members present: Nancy Ballard, Jeff Cessna, Mark Dahlman, George Durland, Jonathan Harris, Elmer Lantz, Wendell Mohr, Andy Muir, Pat Repik-Byrne, Joel Rosen, and Rod Towers. Non board members present: David Ballard and Don Turner. (Continued on Page 4)

Publicity (and Fluorescent Tent): All six fluorescent cases are committed. George will purchase fire-retardant plastic for the fluorescents tent.

Vice President: George Durland was thanked for his presentation. The next two meeting speakers have been identified. A possibility for May was discussed, George will help follow-up. Elmer will purchase lamp wicks, lamp fuel, butane starters and dop wax for the shop.

Treasurer: Andy gave a net worth statement and discussed the budget. It was M/S/P to reimburse his \$28 purchase of Quicken 2007 software. With postage increasing Wendell will remind members in the Rockhounder about email option exclusively. Joel suggested that money should be available pre-show for the purchase of raffle prizes. Nancy Shinowara would like a second person to assist her in this task and getting door prizes. It was M/S/P to approve the budget, with modifications as discussed.

Work Shop Chairman: Don Turner stated that we need 250-300 pre-forms. Dan and Elmer will each make 100. Jeff will make 150. Dop wax and saw blades were distributed by Elmer. Enough dop sticks must be on hand. Bob Irby will check the machines.

Junior Advisor: Rod delivered back issues of the *Mini-Miner Monthly* to Holly McNeil for FRA.

Newsletter Editor (and more): Wendell announced 644 of 800 bag goal for kid's prizes were made. He inquired about any changes needed for show signage. George requested no set times for fluorescent displays. Don asked for a height limitation sign for the shop. Wendell will change the door prize slip to request email addresses. One unopened Sue Patch magazine box remains for next meeting. All remaining will be given away at the show. Activities will be available in Geology Department for an informal field trip during Maryland Day at University of Maryland on April 25th.

It was moved, but not seconded to produce a waiver for parents to sign at he shop, attesting to child's age. It was M/S/P that we keep the imposed height limit at the shop and that Don Turner exercise his judgment for other issues, as needed.

Field Trip Chair: Three tentative trips to Hunting Hill were discussed. Mark noted that the new EFMS insurance requires all field trips to be recorded. Jonathan will note to EFMLS if trip does not appear in Rockhounder. A member poll will be taken regarding a club swap/show & tell/ identify event.

Membership: Nancy reports that Charlie Zeller's computer guy is optimistic about recovering the post card mailing label list from his ill computer. Plan B is in place.

Show "Downstairs" Chair: Exhibits to date number 26, 5 of which are fluorescents, trailing from last years numbers. Pat will pen a desperate email plea for distribution to members. Previous well received exhibitors will be contacted. Andy Celmer has donated magnetite and Aurora fossils for the kids table. Volunteer sign up is in OK shape, with some blanks. Holly McNeil will put up a display about the FRA program. Open questions were collected for the, not present show chairman.

Property Manager: Joel proclaimed March 19th and 20th as "no snow" days. Joel will check the trailer and has three possible plans to get it to the show. Joel will buy a new lock for the trailer.

General: Raffle and door prize intricacies were discussed. Mark reminded the board members to start or update their description of duties. There will be no March board of directors meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 PM.

Jeff Cessna, Secretary

MARCH MEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Judith Barr, Jack Busch , **90th!**, Leila Campbell, Tom Cummins, Rebecca Dahlman, George Durland, Cynthia Hunter-Shupe, Jane Kuehn, Diane Leaman, Gary Leaman, Mary Beth Mason, Patricia Repik-Byrne, Shannon Snyder, Paul Vance, Harold Williams.

March's Birthstone is Aquamarine.

Named for its resemblance to the color of sea water, beryl in hues of blue-green to blue in medium dark to pale tones is called aquamarine. It can be found in a variety of cutting styles and makes a brilliant and durable jewelry stone. (Hardness= 7.5) Virtually all aquamarine has been heated to reduce green tones and produce a purer blue, a change which is stable. Main sources are Brazil, Zambia, Madagascar and Nigeria.

Via Rochester Lapidary Society RockCollector Dec 2007

FIELD TRIPS: The trip to the Smithsonian Naturalist Center in Leesburg VA on January 31st was enjoyed by Jeff Cessna, David Colvin & Charlotte



Tyler, Melissa and Gabriella McDonald, Wendell & Jo Ann Mohr, and Rod Towers and perhaps others arriving after 2 pm. Thanks to Jonathan for the planning. Helene Lisy, to whom we have sent a *Rockhounder* for a long time and which she posts, cordially greeted us. We had the opportunity to see anything we wanted including drawers full of fossil and mineral specimens. Some drawers were locked and we were accorded the privilege of gaining entry to examine specimens. It was a great opportunity for "hands-on" learning. Some fossils donated by Phil Marcus, deceased Society member, were even noted. There were also a great number of contemporary shells, animals, and biological materials.



March 29th, April 19th, and May 17th will be the dates for field trips to the **Hunting Hill Quarry in Rockville**, arranged by our liaison, Fred Parker. Arrive no later than 8:15 am. Minimum age is 16 (With proper parental supervision.) You must reserve no later than one week before the trip. Phone Jonathan Harris at 301-545-0808 or, (preferred), Email <jgharris7@comcast.net>. Please include with any messages your name and contact information. The quarry needs a headcount a week ahead, and contact information is needed in case of a last minute cancellation. Only paid members are permitted. If you show up without prior signup, you will be asked to leave.

Standard safety requirements apply. Dress appropriately, with appropriate safety gear. Hard shoes, hard hats, long pants, and safety goggles are a must. Steel toed boots are highly recommended for both toe protection and ankle support. Hard hats must stay on your head and eyes must be covered at all times (even when there is no banging) while in the quarry. All collectors must attend the safety briefing at the beginning of the trip and follow all quarry rules.

Find your best way to the intersection of Shady Grove Road with Darnestown Road. (From I-270 you may take I-370 west to Great Seneca Highway, where you turn left, to Darnestown Road, where you turn right.) Go North (West at this point) on Darnestown Road. Turn Left at the stop light at Travilah Road. Go 0.9 miles and turn left on Piney Meetinghouse Road. Go 0.1 miles to the quarry entrance on the right. Enter the property and stay right and meet at the office building.

Jonathan Harris will email announcements of any trips scheduled after press time and will have specific driving instructions. Get on his list if you are not already included and are interested. Contact him at <jgharris7@comcast.net>. No E Mail? Call Jonathan at 301-545-0808.

SAFETY**ARE YOU READY FOR TROUBLE?**

By Mel Albright, AFMS Safety Chair May 1999

Most of us cruise through life expecting no major health problems and getting none. But, fate has a way of surprising us. Accidents happen, strokes come, heart attacks come, sudden changes happen, snakes bite. And then we go or are taken to an emergency room to get help. When you get there, are you ready? Ready? How? Well, there are some things you should carry at all times. Otherwise, the emergency treatment may hurt you rather than help. What should you carry?

1. A list of all the medicines you take. This should include everything. Your regular prescriptions, of course are part. List the medicine, it's strength, and the frequency you take it. Over the counter stuff should be listed, too. What vitamins do you take? What herbals? Anything you take regularly should be listed - name, strength and frequency. Then there is the occasional stuff. Over the counter pain killers, cold medicines, cough medicines, allergy pills, etc. should all be listed.
2. A short health summary. List whatever problem you might have. Sinus, heart, diabetes, allergies, asthma - whatever. Remember, you may not be in shape to tell the doctors.
3. A list of who to contact if you are taken ill or hurt. Some hospitals either cannot or are reluctant to treat you without your family being aware of what's going on. Names, addresses, phone numbers, and relationships should be listed.
4. Your identification. Frequently, joggers and the like go out without identification. When they are stricken, no one knows who they are or who to tell.
5. And, of course, your health insurance information. Surprise health problems are a shock to all of us. We all like to pretend they won't happen to us. But they might! Don't make them worse by not being prepared. And don't bet that you can remember all of the above information while worrying about your health.

YOUTH POSTER CONTEST 2009

David Rich of Summit Lapidary Club in Ohio is Sponsoring the Second Annual Youth Poster Contest and is looking for a good turnout from kids all across America.

Details for entering:

Theme: "Gemstones of the World" - a poster illustrating one or more gemstones or minerals that interest you, from anywhere in the world.

Eligibility: Any kids grade 1-8. Each grade will have a winner. Ribbons awarded for 1st through 4th place. The 1st place winners will also receive a prize.

Contest Rules:

- All entries must be on paper 12 X 18 inches.
- Include name, address, age and school grade of participant on back of entry.
- Artwork can be pen, ink, crayons, magic marker, paint or any other artists' medium; however, no 3-dimensional posters.
- The title may be on the front or the back.
- List names of the gems and/or minerals and why you chose them.
- All entries become the property of the Summit Lapidary Club.

Scale of Points:

Originality and artwork - 30 points.

Design - 25 points.

Title -25 points.

Listing of gems and/or minerals and reason - 20 points.

Deadline:

Entries must be postmarked by April 1, 2009.

Send to David Rich, 1166 Broadview Road, Tallmadge, Ohio 44278.

Winners to be displayed and prizes/ribbons awarded at the Summit Lapidary Club's Spring Gemboree on April 25, 2009.

If you have questions, contact Contest Chairman David Rich: (330) 630-9625, <DRICH@lapidaryclubofohio.org>.

Those of you who have been enjoying the free magazines from the Sue Patch collection and from Bob Irby: If you are done with them and not going to save them, please bring them to the Show for free distribution to the public. They will make attractive give-aways.

SHOW TABLE: February 9, 2009. Thanks to those who bring items for sharing at the meetings.



Exhibitor

Frances Becker
Boe Brosius

Jeff Cessna

Robert Clemenzi
Mark Dahlman
George Durland

Gerald Elgert
Chuck Hyland
Pat Jayne
Alexandra Kindahl
Eric Kindahl

David MacLean
Gabriella McDonald
Wendell Mohr
Andy Muir

Keith Regatts
George Reimherr

Joel Rosen
Conrad Smith
Earl Smith
Rod Towers

Specimen (s)

Willemite, Calcite, Franklinite
Star Sapphire
Drusy Quartz on Quartzite
Amethyst
Hedyphane
Zincite
Electro Luminescent Wire
Five-color fluorescent
Esperite, Hardystonite, Calcite, Willemite
Calcite and Willemite
Fluorite
Serpentine*
Assorted fluorescent minerals
Herkimer "Diamond" (Quartz)
Lapis Lazuli, "Mountain Jade" simulant
Key Largo Limestone*
Miami oolite*
Halite (fluorescent)
Calcite
Aquamarine
Calcite
Zinc Oxide Blue-green Fl.
Adamite
Fluorite
Stellerite* (new mineral for locality!)
Sylvite
Fluorite on ore
Geode
Quartz
Beryl
Microscope and specimens

* = Self-collected or self made

Locality

Sterling Hill Mine, Ogdensburg NJ
Location unknown
Eaglehead, New Market MD
Brazil
Langban, Varmland, Sweden
Sterling Hill NJ
Unknown
Franklin NJ
Franklin NJ
Ogdensburg NJ
Cumberland, England
College Park MD
Franklin NJ and beyond
Herkimer NY
Locality unknown
Crane Pt., Marathon, Monroe County FL
Blue Hole, Big Pine Key, Monroe County FL
Parajd, Roumania
Manassas VA
Kasmir, Pakistan
Terlingua TX
Locality unknown
Mapimi, Mexico
Rogerley Mine, Weardale, N. England.
Hunting Hill Quarry, near Rockville MD
Mojave region, CA
Ogdensburg NJ
CO
Herkimer NY
Locality unknown



FEBRUARY PRIZES

Junior #1 Alexandra Kindahl, Barite, Palos Verde, CA.
Junior #2 Gabriella McDonald, Pyrite, locale unknown
Show Table Conrad Smith, Apophyllite, Poona India
General #1 Nancy Ballard, Azurite,
Hunan Province, China
General #2 Linda Smith, Amethyst
General #3 Eric Kindahl Lithographie LLC
Garnet 2009 Calendar
General #4 Tom Parnell Lithographie LLC
Garnet 2009 Calendar



UPCOMING SHOWS AND EVENTS

March 7 - 8, The Delaware Mineralogical Society, Inc. 46th Annual Earth Science Gem and Mineral Show at Delaware Technical and Community College at I-95 Exit 4B, Churchmans Road (Rt. 58) Newark (Stanton), DE 19713. Hours Saturday are 10:00 am to 6:00 pm, Sunday 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Admission is \$5.00, \$4.00 for seniors, \$3.00 for youngsters between 12 and 16, and free for children under 12 accompanied by an adult. Information and Coupons at <www.delminsociety.net> or contact <gene@fossilnut.com>.

March 13, Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Society Auction. Friday only, viewing 7:00 pm, Auction 7:30 pm. Woman's Club of Catonsville. Gemstones, cutting rough, jewelry, minerals, fossils, books, magazines, and lapidary equipment. Refreshments are available. Directions: Go West on Frederick Road from I-695 (Baltimore beltway), approximately 3 blocks to St. Timothy's Lane. Turn right and go one block to the Woman's Club located behind St. Timothy's Church.

March 15, 1 - 4 pm. Geology at the National Zoo, an Audubon Naturalist Society program. Members \$19, Nonmembers \$26.50. Reduced rate for second or more persons. A two mile hike, not rocky nor muddy, but some parts steep. 480 million years ago oceanic volcanoes met the continent. Metamorphosed sea floor sediments and a large fault zone are evident here. Leader Joe Marx. Registration required. Information <www.audubonnaturalist.org> or 301 951 7179 ext. 16

March 21-22, Our own **GEM-MINERAL-FOSSIL SHOW** at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds. Help with Set-up on Friday, March 20th at 9:00 am. Get your exhibit application form in to Patricia Repik-Byrne. Another application form will be sent to you separately for your convenience. She wants to have 40 or more cases. Less than 3 weeks left for preparing professional looking labels, nice liners, risers, and other case features! YOU are an important part in publicizing the event so distribute show fliers and posters From George Durland. Sign up to help set up and volunteer to cover the many jobs to be done Saturday and Sunday. Heather Felsen, Show Chairman, reports that we are well along in show preparations. Note: members who volunteer are admitted free, others must pay admission.

March 28, Saturday only. The 19th Annual Jewelry, Mineral, & Fossil Show of the Southern MD Rock & Mineral Club at the Clearwater Nature Center, 11000 Thrift Road, Clinton, Maryland. From the Beltway Take MD Route 5 for 7 miles to Surratts Road. Go right 1 mile to Brandywine Road. Go left 0.4 of a mile to Thrift Rd. Go right 1 mile to the Clearwater Nature Center sign. Turn right into parking lot. 10:00 am - 4:00 pm, Admission \$2 (children 6 and under are free). Information (301) 297-4575 or <<http://www.freewebs.com/smrmc/>>.

March 27 - 29, Atlantic Micromounters Conference, sponsored by the Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area at the Hospital Association Conference Center, Elkridge MD. Ron Gibbs, mining geologist in NM and AZ, field collector, dealer, and author will be the Conference speaker. Registration and information: S. Weinberger <cscrystals2@verizon.net> or phone 410 833 7926.

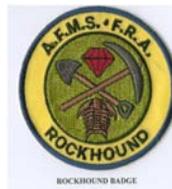
April 23 - 26, 36th Rochester Mineralogical Symposium, Radisson Hotel Rochester Airport, 175 Jefferson Rd. Rochester NY 14623. Call hotel by Mar. 20th to reserve single/double at \$83/night. Dealers, presentations, auction, micromounts. Registration form <www.rasny.org>. Information <sccham2@yahoo.com>

JUNIORS At the February FRA meeting of the MOCKS we discussed what makes a good exhibit and what we can do to showcase our specimens. We then applied our discussion to the creation of a “mock” exhibit. We talked briefly about the many varieties of quartz and what causes their different appearances, and then ended the meeting with a game of “quartz bingo.”



March 9th Meeting – we will:

- Talk about various approaches to expanding our collections.
- Discuss different ways to manage, curate and catalog our collections.
- Learn some “dos and don’ts” when purchasing new specimens.
- We will start preparing for the April Mineral Identification session by learning the Mohs hardness scale.
- We’ll end the meeting with a game of “Tic-Tac-Rock” with specimen prizes for all.
- Optional “Assignment” – bring in part (or all) of your collection to apply to the discussion.



April 13th: How to identify minerals. This will be a great class for both first time and regular members and will cover all the basics and practical application of identification.

CONDOLENCES Sadly we report the death of Beryl Schwarz, long time ex-member who, at the age of 88, died on January 16, 2009. Survivors include son, Sydney and wife Gale, and grandsons Michael and Zachary. She was the wife of Gunther, who was very active in the Society and a life member. They moved to Charlotte North Carolina after retirement and, after Gunther’s passing, she moved to the Brian Center and Retirement home there.



Also, Jim Durburow, of Mollusk Virginia, died on January 18, 2009. Surviving are his wife, Versie, children, Jeffrey Durborow of Vermont, Pamela Gallagher of Connecticut and Steven Durborow of Tennessee, stepchildren, William St. John of Arizona and Janet Manuel of Florida, nine grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, and a sister, Jean Durborow of Ohio. Jim was a long time member, Show Chair & past President of the Society.



Latest new mineral found last year in March and accepted this month by Int’l Mineralogical Association’s Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification (CNMMN) :

Goflyakite

Found only in Lofty Places

Geology vacation trips for certain folks:
 Artists: Painted Desert, Arizona; Ecologists: Green Bay Wisconsin; Firefighters: Smokey Mountains; Geologists: Stone Mountain, Georgia; Jewelers: Pearl City, Hawaii

MINERALOGICAL RECORD The February M-R Silent auction was won by Juan Proaño by proxy bid. This donation from the Sue Patch estate netted the Society \$355. In March we will hold another silent auction for another two complete years of these collectible magazines. One lot consisting of Vol. III, 6 issues, 1972, and another lot, Vol. IV, 6 issues, 1973. The Minimum bid for each is \$69 and \$87 respectively, half of the going retail price.

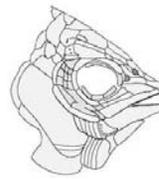
Eeeee- a mouse!



WEB SITES

By Wendell Mohr

Fossil Fishes of Bear Gulch at <http://www.sju.edu/research/bear_gulch/> gives a peek at an assortment of 130 fishes and other species being collected from a lagerstätte there. Find out what that term means. Bear Gulch is a Mississippian formation in central Montana, about 14 km by 9 km wide, and up to 30 meters deep. See the results of nearly four decades of study by the authors, Lund, Richard, and Grogan, E.D., 2005.



Skull bones (left) and fossil (right) of *Guildayichthys carnegiei*.

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Date site accessed February 23, 2009, photo last updated 2/1/2006.

• A fossil collector illegally collected a vertebrate fossil. He was overjoyed and went back and got a second. Happy with his finds, he returned for more collecting and got a third. Irresistibly he continued and found his fourth specimen, Aha, on his last trip he was caught by the Feds. He went to court over the matter. Next day's newspaper headlines: "Fossil collector takes the 5th." •



Photo credit R.Weller/Cochise College

Herkimer Diamonds Those NON-diamonds (quartz) found in central NY are featured at <http://geology.com/articles/herkimer-diamonds.shtml>. Read about collecting techniques, location and geology, and the collect-for-a-fee commercial mines. Itchy feet? Plan your field trip now. NY should get beyond the lake effect snows by June! • Field trippin' is music to my ears. Some organized club trips you go by De Bus see? Chopin away at the boulders. Lookin' for the crystals Haydn. Broke the pick Handel My collecting companion was Rock Maninoff. Get out of my crystal pocket, Shoo Burt! Chips flying everywhere, you must stand Bach. Moe's Art is his esthetic specimen. He Ravels over the find. •

Totems to Turquoise from an American Museum of Natural History (NY) exhibit in 2004-5 at <http://www.amnh.org/exhibitions/totems/?src=e_f> is still is an attraction to people who find Jewelry Arts and especially Native American craftsmanship of interest. There are sections about cosmology, society, artists, history, and a gallery. Enjoy! • Going to the South West to check out the really fine turquoise jewelry? Know the three things you must take: Money, Money, Money! • • My old avid turquoise collector friend has been collecting for many many years and has traveled extensively. He said he has visited all 48 states. •



Photo credit R.Weller/Cochise College

45th ANNUAL GEM-MINERAL-FOSSIL SHOW

MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

MAR. 21 & MAR. 22, 2009
SAT. 10 AM-6 PM, SUN. 10 AM-5 PM

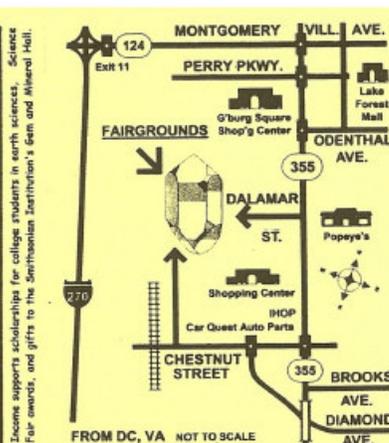
Presented by the Gem, Lapidary, & Mineral Society of Mont. Co., MD.

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March Field Trip is to the GLMSMC Show!

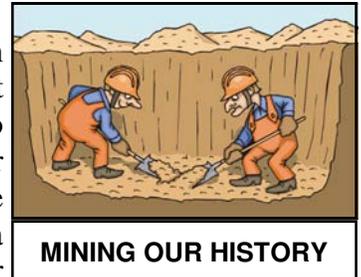
Set up 9 am Friday March 20

And the big show, the 21st and 22nd.

SOCIETY HISTORY

By Jack Busch

1993 Finale—In October's *Rockhounder* Editor Nancy Ballard printed an article she had seen in another club's bulletin, whose editor had lifted it from *Big Rock Trader*, and which I feel bears repeating. It seems two NASA researchers at Goddard Space Center had discovered gold in a star in the Cancer constellation. This was no minor find for they estimated the amount of Au in that star to be 100 billion tons! Now, that might make a lengthy field trip worthwhile. Imagine what a stimulus that could be to our economy.



Speaking of field trips, several were announced for October, going to places like Texas Quarry in Cockeysville MD Matoaka Cottages, on the Chesapeake Bay, in St. Leonard MD, a Soapstone Quarry in Darnestown MD, and Barger's Quarry in Lexington VA. Some of the Texas Quarry finds were displayed at October's Show Table. Field Trip Chairman Terry Cirrincione reported that as a part of the trip to Texas Quarry she and Jack Nelson drove to the home of Quarry Foreman Page Herbert to present him with a display case as a token of the Society's appreciation for his assistance to us in making the site available.

The speaker at the October meeting was member Paul Smith whose talk was about Micro-mounting. (Those of you who remember Paul can recall that he was an expert in that field.) He told how many minerals can be found only as micros and can be overlooked by collectors of large specimens. Also, he displayed and described the use of various tools connected with this aspect of the hobby. In addition, Paul showed slides depicting the steps taken in preparing micromounts augmented by other slides showing specimens he had photographed through the microscope.

As usual November was election month, and at the Society's meeting three of 1993's officers were re-elected for another term: Lou Williams, President; Bob Irby, VP; and George Fetterly, Treasurer. Lois Ritchie was elected Secretary. After these formalities were completed, the evening's program began. The speaker was Dave Bohaska, a paleontologist at Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History. Dave was no stranger to us as he had previously spoken here while he held a similar position at the Calvert Marine Museum. He gave another interesting talk, describing the world famous Calvert County fossil beds, noted for Miocene marine fossils. Mike Ellwood brought some which he had collected there and Dave used them as a part of his presentation.

November's Board of Directors meeting also proved to be interesting. A major topic of discussion was whether or not to have competitive cases in our annual show, using the AFMS uniform rules. The general feeling was that non-competitive cases in previous years had been outstanding, and that more members would be willing to enter displays if there were no restrictions. The other big topic was a possible change of meeting place. We had been meeting in the cafeteria of Herbert Hoover Middle School for many years, but members no longer felt comfortable there. The seats were very hard (folding kid's sized lunch tables), and recently the school had initiated the practice of turning down the heat as soon as classes ended, resulting in a cold room. Editor Nancy Ballard had even



printed an advisory cautioning members to wear warm clothing when attending meetings! Thus the hunt began for a more comfortable venue.

The year ended with the traditional party meeting, but this time something new added to the festivities, a raffle. The prizes were three of Fred Ward's books - Rubies and Sapphires, Emeralds, and Diamonds - and a copy of the soon to be published book by Robert Hazen. In addition there was an auction called by Fred Schaefermeyer. Together, these two events brought \$153 to the Society's treasury. Also there were swap and/or sell tables and several boxes of give-aways donated by various members. All this was capped by the usual calorie donation.

Thus endeth 1993. What did 1994 bring? See next month. Hope to see you at the show.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| | |
|---|--------------|
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Society Address: Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Montgomery County MD., Inc.
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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 home address.



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