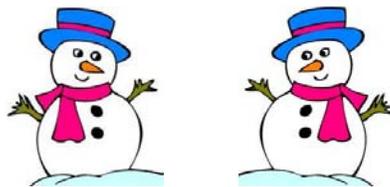


# THE ROCKHOUNDER



# JANUARY 2012

**PURPOSE:** 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."

**REGULAR MEETING:** Meetings are held the 2nd Monday of the month from September to June. The Society will meet on **Monday January 9th** in the dining room of the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, Rockville. A short business meeting will begin at 7:45 pm but the room is available to us at 7:30 pm so come early and chat with old friends.

For this month, we will not have a guest speaker. Instead, there will be a presentation by individuals involved with the production of our **Annual Show and Sale** at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds on the weekend of March 17-18, 2012. Share in the excitement and participation in the event! Pat Repik-Byrne and Mark Dahlman, show co-chairs will speak about many aspects of the show in general, Bob Irby will discuss the shop, Holly McNeil will discuss the mini-miners and junior activities, and Wendell Mohr will discuss exhibiting. Incidentally, Pat Repik-Byrne asked that, due to her work schedule, exhibit application forms be received by February 13th. A form on page 9 may be copied. Last year our available cases were over-subscribed so get your request in early to assure a space.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS** will meet **Monday January 16th** at the Home of Andy Muir. All Board members are expected to be there. Any member is welcome to attend but please let Andy know if you plan to attend at: <amuir21@comcast.net> or phone 301 990 1370.

**ROSTER UPDATE** An updated roster will be sent out in January. It is for the convenience of members and will be postal or e-mailed to members only. It is not to be used to solicit business, nor distributed outside of the Society. If any data in your listing has changed, (address, phone number, e-mail, children added or deleted) tell Doug Baum, Membership Chair, NOW. 301 515 4641 or <dbaum@gazette.net>.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Congrats to those newly elected at the December 2011 meeting, and those officers who agreed to serve an additional term :

President - Andy Celmer  
Vice President - Chris Luzier  
Secretary - Jeff Cessna  
Treasurer - Andy Muir



**DEADLINE** for Feb. 2012 Rockhounder: Jan. 30th.

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## Weather Alert

**SNOW CONTINGENCY** Reminder: If schools in Montgomery County 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. Phone numbers are listed on the back of the *ROCKHOUNDER*.



## THE 5-MINUTE DRILL

by Owen Martin, AFMS Safety Chair



I've written periodically over the last few years about emergency preparedness so that if some type of weather event may impact you that you have water, food, batteries, first aid kits etc. I typically made two assumptions, one being that you would have enough time to "pack and evac" in the case of something like a hurricane, or the other, that you were prepared to deal with the aftermath of a storm event like a tornado or storm front.

Unfortunately the recent wildfires in the south-central USA has brought up another instance to consider for emergency preparedness.

Local emergency responders were forced to provide a "5-minute evacuation order" for hundreds of home owners in the vicinity of several wildfires. Those orders prompted a lot of discussion in the local media about how to comply and still save what you think is important. The first wave of feedback was to protect your loved ones and pets, and get in the car and go. That however did not reflect the fact that the authorities were providing a small amount of time to actually pack a few things before leaving. In other words, don't panic!

If you can organize yourself prior to such an event then you can practice it similar to a family fire drill. At my home we determined that there would be a division of labor that would help us save more than just our skins and the clothes on our backs. So as an example: Dad: medicines and safe deposit box key, parent clothes., Mom: photo albums, Child #1: laptops and clothes, Child #2: pets and pet food, clothes, and Child #3: clothes and school backpacks.

Likely that gives everyone time for two quick trips to dump everything into the van, car or truck. Little things like family wall photos could certainly be grabbed on the way out, too. I might even grab a couple of fossils or an arrowhead! It would really depend on how quickly we could move.

The point being we prioritized what we would do: who would get what first and second trips, and then be ready to go.

I would recommend you consider a "5-minute" drill in your own household so that if you are forced to evacuate on short notice that you can do so in a calm and efficient manner, gather personal effects that have a high value to you, and still get out safely.

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The December 12, 2011 meeting was called to order by Past-President Mark Dahlman at 7:58 pm, with approximately 48 people attending. It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2011 regular meeting and the November 21, 2011 Board of Director's meeting.

**Treasurer:** Andy Muir delivered the treasurers report. The club is in good financial shape. Society insurance has been paid. The auction was successful, netting approximately \$6000 of which the club will retain a portion.

**Editor and EFMLS Liaison:** Wendell Mohr reported that everything sold at the auction except three books. There was a silent auction of those remaining books. Wendell expressed the club's thanks to Patrick Haynes for all his help to the club. Patrick is moving back to the southwest. Unfortunately he was not able to make it to the party. A cake was prepared in his honor by Gaby Muir.



Wendell announced he was passing the editor torch to Gerald Elgert. We thank Wendell for his service and thank Gerald for volunteering. President-elect Andy Celmer presented Wendell with a gift of thanks.

**Mini-Miners:** Linda Smith introduced the Mini-Miners members. They displayed the mineral mosaic pictures they had created. Afterwards the Mini-Miners joined the party.

**Show:** JoAnn Mohr has bags which need stringing for the club show. Pat Repik-Byrne announced that sign-ups for club show cases will begin in January. The deadline will be the February meeting.

Joel Rosen administered the drawing for the door prize.

The holiday party continued. Thanks to all who brought the many desserts and to those who brought the supplies.

Party adjourned at 10:00 PM.

Jeff Cessna, Secretary

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES No Board meeting was held in December.



**SUNSHINE** Elmer Lantz slipped and fell on Christmas day, breaking a hip. After the doctors put Humpty Dumpty back together again, they then installed three non-rusting screws to hold things in place. He is expected to be recovered in about 6 weeks but is able to walk using a walker right now already! Wish him a speedy recovery.





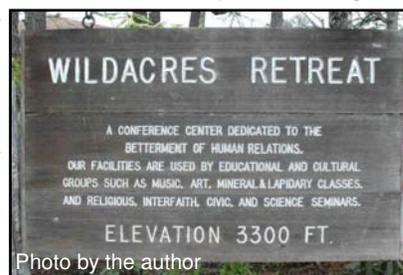
Photos By  
Wendell  
&  
Gerald

Christmas Party Photos

## **2012 EFMLS WILDACRES WORKSHOP SESSIONS**

By Gerald Elgert

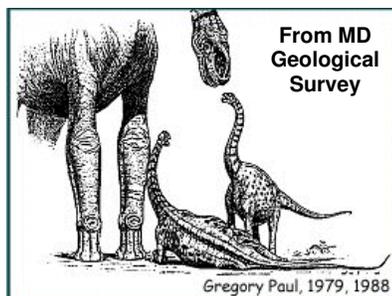
If you've never been to a Wildacres session, you are missing out on a fun filled week of good food, fellowship and classes in everything from geology field trips to cabochon making, casting and faceting. The week-long classes are held at a special retreat center, on a private mountaintop near Little Switzerland, in North Carolina. The cost for the Spring week is \$350 and that includes a room and three chef prepared buffet style meals each day. There will be a speaker in residence who will talk each evening on their specialty and experiences. There will be a special Comedy and Fun Night, an auction and even a newspaper, published by those attending plus the ever popular tailgating session. The workshops are held twice each year, in the spring and in the fall. The spring classes fill early so try and make plans for April 10-15, 2012. Look at <[www.amfed.org/efmls](http://www.amfed.org/efmls)> and click on the Wildacres tab. You can also download an application form that you can print out and mail in.



2010 marks the 40<sup>th</sup> year for the Wildacres Workshops. In recognition of this event, two scholarships will be awarded by the Federation, one for the spring and the other for the fall session. For details and an application, visit the website at <[www.amfed.org/EFMLS/Wildacres.htm](http://www.amfed.org/EFMLS/Wildacres.htm)>, or just drop me a line. Our Board of Directors, for the GLMSMC, also offers one scholarship annually to a Society member who has never been to Wildacres, has been a member for at least a year, and has been active in club affairs, especially at our annual show. Nominations are to be submitted to the Board via Andy Celmer. Any member may make a nomination, including for themselves. You can also view a video on YouTube by visiting: <[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kac0qhJG00M&feature=channel\\_page](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kac0qhJG00M&feature=channel_page)>. (Wendell Mohr has applications and class schedules for those without e-mail).

## **FIELD TRIPS**

**Saturday, January 21, 2012. The MARYLAND DINOSAUR PARK at MUIRKIRK, MD.** This 110



million year old Cretaceous site, now a county park, is being called the most significant dinosaur location on the East Coast. To date, 14 species of dinosaurs have been found here as well as three of crocodiles, and several more of fish and turtles. The list extends into the plant Kingdom with abundant petrified wood being easily found. Some of the fossils have calcite crystals in cavities or pyrite crystals growing on the surface. There is a professional paleontologist in residence and a lecture will be given on the geology and history of the area. This will be a

hands-on experience, with personal handling of specimens found at the park. Well behaved children are encouraged to attend. Some of the best finds have been made by them. Then we will all join in with the professionals in the collection and identification of our finds. All finds become property of the Smithsonian, with full credit given, although permission is some times granted to keep duplicate specimens. Please contact the leader, Gerald Elgert, at 301 681 5720 in the week preceding the trip. The park is located at 13200 Mid Atlantic Blvd. in South Laurel, Maryland. From the 495 Beltway, take Exit 25A (Rt. US 1) North about 6.5 miles and make a right turn onto Contee Road. Go over a railroad bridge and an immediate right onto Mid Atlantic Blvd and drive to the end of the road.

## FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS OF AMERICA (The MOCKS) Ages 10-15

**Meeting Date:** January 9, 2012 **Meeting time:** 7:45 - 9:00 pm

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



### December 12, 2011

The Party's over....we came...we ate...we ate some more ...and had a holiday "Yankee Mineral Swap" for the MOCKS and Mini-miner guests.

Photos by W. Mohr



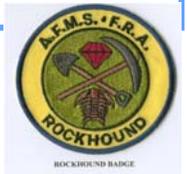
### January 9, 2012

The MOCKS first order of business in 2012 is to spend a few minutes with the adults demonstrating some of the youth activities at the annual show.

We will then start a three-month segment covering the identification of Igneous, Sedimentary and Metamorphic rocks. This would be a great time for anyone interested in joining the Future Rockhounds of America to do so.

**SHOW BUSINESS:** If you wish to do a display case for the show, MOCKS are encouraged to sign up in January by completing an Exhibit Application form and turning it in to Pat Repik-Byrne or Holly McNeil. Cases are limited, so you are encouraged to sign up as soon as possible.

For more information on the Future Rockhounds of America program, please contact Holly McNeil at <fra\_advisor@glmsmc.com> or 301-605-7179.



## FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS OF AMERICA (MINI MINERS) Ages 6-9

**Meeting Date:** January 9, 2012 **Meeting time:** 7:00 - 8:00 pm

**Meeting Location:** The Card room at the Rockville Senior Center

At the December meeting of the Mini Miners we did a craft project by gluing pictures of different minerals on a mosaic grid. We had fun trying to determine what minerals and rocks were depicted in the pictures. After the meeting we joined the club meeting for the Christmas party.

In the January meeting we will be discussing crystals. We will make a model of a salt crystal and try our hand at growing crystals. Please contact Linda Smith [Tunacat107@aol.com](mailto:Tunacat107@aol.com) for more information.

Halite crystals—Searles Lake, San Bernardino County, CA  
photo by R.Weller/Cochise College.



**February 18, 2012** Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club's 22nd Annual Mineral, Jewelry, & Fossil Show, one day, 10am - 5pm. The Show Place Arena, Upper Marlboro, Maryland. Information <<http://www.smrmc.org/2012-rock-show.html>>.

**March 3 - 4, 2012** Delaware Mineralogical Society 49th Annual Show. Delaware Technical & Community College, I-95, Exit 5B, Churchmans Road (DE 58), Newark (Stanton) DE. Saturday 10am - 6pm, Sunday 11am - 5pm. Information <[www.delministry.net](http://www.delministry.net)>.

**March 17 - 18, 2012 OUR SHOW!** Save the dates, plan to **volunteer**. Since this is an all volunteer operated event, it is important that everyone does their fair share.



**April 27 - 29 2012** Atlantic Micromounters Conference. MHA Conference Center, Elkridge MD.

**DECEMBER DOOR PRIZE:**

The lucky winner of the Door prize, a Picture Rock from China, was Mary Cummins.

**ON SHARING**

by **Gerald Elgert, Rockhounder Editor**

Playing golf, to me, is a lot like collecting fossils or rocks. Probably 90% of my time is spent in looking for the ball. With fossil or rock collecting, most of the fun is also with the search. I also have fun taking care of my tools, like cleaning and polishing my golf clubs and washing the balls. I like to spray paint my rock hammers and chisels a bright yellow so they are easy to find. I also have some yellow golf balls.

But, if you're still reading this, you're probably wondering, "Just what is he talking about?" I'm really talking about sharing, because probably 10% of my finds end up in some forgotten and dusty box in the basement. But the remaining 90% go to into a museum collection, usually the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History or into the hands of a wide eyed child.

In a special display case in the Dinosaur Hall at the museum, there sits the cast of a baby dinosaur that was collected not in the wilds of some exotic and foreign land, but right in our backyards in College Park - and by an amateur who shared his find with all of us. It's something to consider doing.



## MINE THESE

WEB SITES

By Wendell C. Mohr

**FMF Minerals Forum** is by Jordi Fabre, and moderated by John S. White and Peter Megaw. At <http://www.mineral-forum.com/message-board/viewtopic.php?t=2100> you will find a section on the collection of Matteo Chinellato. This is real Eye Candy! Showing mostly European specimens, he lists the locality, minerals and specimen size. Superb quality, this one will knock your eyes out! You may want to peek at the entire web site at <http://www.mineral-forum.com/message-board/> for the far-reaching forum. Thanks to Tom Tucker for the lead to this site. • His Uraninite is supposed to be radioactive but I can't get it on the AM or FM dial. •



**Museum Tours & Places of Interest**, Including not only U.S. but also worldwide locations, are listed at [www.the-vug.com/vug/vugmuseums.html](http://www.the-vug.com/vug/vugmuseums.html). Now, during winter, is a great time to plan your vacation(s) for the year and this is a helpful way to include places of interest wherever you might be travelling. Most have links to the location for ease of getting lots more details. • Two guests at the NMNH were chatting. "Have you heard the latest mineral collector joke?" Collector: "Joke? No, but before you start, I want you to know I am a mineral collector so don't offend me." "Oh, that's OK," said the first, "I'll tell it very slowly." •

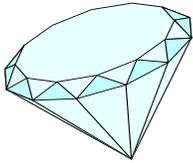
**Sometimes Newsletter**, is an informative site of interest to cutters At <http://www.ultratec-facet.com/Sometimes/somenew.htm>. As is our custom any commercial aspect is not advocated here but you should enjoy a lot of things of interest. For example go to Recent Keynotes "Buying Rough, by Lisa Elder." Click "Sometimes Archives" for newsletters back to 1981, when they were done in typewriter copy! Go to "The Library" for even more. Noodle around and enjoy. • Canary yellow, robin's egg blue, cardinal red...the color of bird-stones •



A white-haired old man walked into my jewelry store on a Friday, with a beautiful young lady at his side. "I'm looking for a special ring for my girlfriend," he said. Our jeweler looked through our stock and took out an outstanding

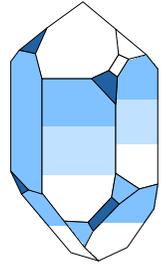
ring priced at \$5,000. "I don't think you understand. I want something very unique," the man said.

At that, our now very excited jeweler went and fetched our special stock from the safe. "Here's one stunning ring at \$40,000." The girl's eyes sparkled, and the man said that he would take it. "How are you paying?" asked our jeweler. "I'll pay by check; but of course the bank will want to make sure that everything is in order, so I'll write a check and you can phone the bank tomorrow, and then I'll fetch the ring on Monday." Monday morning, our very disappointed jeweler phoned the man. "You lied, there's no money in that account." "I know, sorry, but can you imagine what a FANTASTIC weekend I had?"



# EXHIBIT APPLICATION FORM

The Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society  
of Montgomery County, Maryland, Inc.  
P.O. Box 444, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20884-0444



Request for Exhibit Space in the 48th Annual Gem and Mineral Show to be held at  
The Montgomery County Fairgrounds, 16 Chestnut Street, Gaithersburg, Maryland.  
Saturday, March 17th, 2012 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM  
Sunday, March 18th, 2012 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please Print or Type)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

My Exhibit will be: (Please enter the display title and type of display on the following lines)

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of display: \_\_\_\_\_

If a fluorescent display is desired, enter: Fluorescent display and the UV wave length(s) desired such as SW, MW, LW, or SW/LW. Example for a fluorescent display might be:  
Title: "Worldwide Fluorites," Type: fluorescent minerals LW.

( ) I will furnish my own case. Type and size: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) I would like a case furnished. Upright cases only. Cases are 2' deep X 2' high X 4' wide, exterior dimensions. Bottom liners should be no more than 23" X 47" and allowance should also be made for reduced side liners.

Set up of cases is Friday, March 16th, 2012 from 3:00 PM until 9:00 PM. Cases are to remain on display on Saturday, March 17th and Sunday March 18th. Cases may be taken down starting no sooner than 5:00 PM on Sunday, March 18th and should be removed as quickly as possible for timely take down.

In consideration of the opportunity to exhibit afforded me by the Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Montgomery County, MD, Inc., I agree that the Society is neither responsible nor liable for any loss or damage sustained by me or by anyone else as a result of my exhibit. I further agree to save said Society harmless from any claims arising from my participation in the show to be held March 17th and 18th 2012. I understand that all risks are my own and that the Society has no insurance which applies to my exhibit or to me. The Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Montgomery County, MD will provide security during the show.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Exhibitor)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Please return this form ASAP, but **no later than February 13th** to:  
Pat Repik-Byrne, 9 Starlight Ct., Potomac, MD, 20854,  
Phone (301) 279-5962, e-mail <prb.rocks@verizon.net>



Note: If you are Demonstrating, you must fill out a separate DEMONSTRATOR APPLICATION FORM

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President– Andy Celmer, 4798 Mid County Court, Monrovia MD 21770-9417	301 865 4442
Vice President- Chris Luzier, 847 Springdale Drive, Millersville MD 21108-1436	443 995 5363
Secretary- Jeff Cessna, 12116 Cliftondale Drive, Silver Spring MD 20904-1941	301 680 7963
Treasurer- Andy Muir, 17949 Hazelcrest Drive, Gaithersburg MD 20877-3761	301 990 1370
Junior Advisor- Rod Towers, 19609 Gunners Branch. Rd., Germantown MD 20876-2738	301 972 1264
Field Trip Chairman- Jonathan Harris, 11932 Goya Drive, Potomac MD 208543313-	301 545 0808
Membership Chairman- Doug Baum, 11205 Golden Meadow Ct., Germantown MD 20876-1740	301 515 4641
Show Chairperson- Pat Repik-Byrne, 9 Starlight Court, Potomac MD 20854-2658	301 279 5962
Property Manager- Joel Rosen, 833 Rampart Way, Union Bridge MD 21791-9325	410 775 7937
Immediate Past President- Eric Kindahl, 301 Violet Court, Mount Airy MD 21771-5206	301 820 2161
EFMLS Liaison- Wendell Mohr, 9509 Emory Grove Road, Gaithersburg MD 20877-3501	301 926 7190
Bulletin Editor- Gerald Elgert, 9910 Lorain Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20901-2231	301 681 5720

Life Members: David Ballard, Jack Busch, Larry Harrison, Wendell Mohr, and Juan Proaño

Society Address: Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Montgomery County MD., Inc.  
 P. O. Box 444, Gaithersburg MD 20884-0444 Web Site: <http://www.glmismc.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 home address.



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Award Winning  
 Bulletin  
 EFMLS, AFMS



**TIME SENSITIVE  
 DATED MATERIAL  
 FIRST CLASS MAIL**



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 Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral  
 Society of Montgomery County,  
 Maryland, Inc  
 Gerald Elgert, Editor  
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