



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”.

NO REGULAR OR BOARD MEETINGS IN JULY OR AUGUST

If any issues arise that require Board action they will be handled by E Mail and/or phone.

DUES Your GLMSMC membership expires August 31, 2010. Membership dues are due by Sept. 1st. Single membership is \$15 per year, Family membership (Which is defined as up to 2 adults and children under 18 years of age) is \$20 per year. **There is a \$5.00 surcharge for late renewals.** We pay dues for EFMLS/AFMS affiliations and over \$3.00 for insurance for each member over 10 years of age so when renewing, list only those interested in taking part in Society activities. Please send dues (check to GLMSMC) to Membership Chairman Doug Baum, 11205 Golden Meadow Court, Germantown MD 20876-1740, (301 515 4641 or e-mail dbaum@gazette.net for questions.) He will mail your membership card(s) back to you if you send him a self addressed stamped envelope, otherwise you may pickup your card(s) at the September regular meeting. If your phone number, address, e-mail address, or other vital information has changed since the January 2012 Roster or subsequent *Rockhounters* please let us know.

Help by paying your dues on time. DO IT NOW while you are thinking about it!
If you receive the *Rockhounter* both by e-mail and mailed hard copy, reconsider if you are willing to receive the newsletter by e-mail only, saving printing and mailing costs, so note when sending in your dues.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER ROCKHOUNDS



CALAMUCI, Steven, 17403 Saint Theresa Drive, Olney MD 20832-2548, 301 570 1184, calamuci@verizon.net
MOWBRAY, Brad, 10759 Middleboro Drive, Damascus MD 20872-2247, 301 943 2229, Mounthyat87@gmail.com.
RICE, Margaret (Peggy), 3203 Saint Augustine Court, Olney MD 20832-1618, 301 774 6647, skater1232002@yahoo.com.

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DEADLINE for The September 2012 Rockhounter: August 27.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

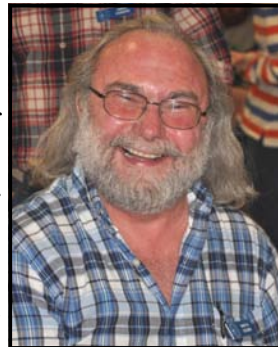
By Andy Celmer

My soapbox is in the shop for an upgrade, but as a preview of coming attractions, next season I will be asking more from you than I have before. And you will rise to the occasion because of which you are, dedicated Rockhounds of GLMSMC.

I would like to take a moment to discuss the accumulated knowledge of our group. The Mighty Mocks are better at rock and mineral identification than I, so if you have a question about identification, they are always a good place to start. The general membership has a warehouse of knowledge concerning every aspect of our collective obsession. An example would be Wendell. When I displayed my fossil at the May Show and Tell, I described it as a tree root. Wendell directed me to two web sites, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lepidodendron> and <http://www.paleodirect.com/pl-002.htm>. These sites clearly show it is not a root but a branch or stalk, which I like much better. So avail yourself of the collective knowledge contained in this group. There are no dumb questions.

Enjoy your summer; collect lots of rocks, minerals and fossils. "Will I see you in September, or loose you to a summer love?" Beach Boys, you remember them!

Andy B, the B stands for Bye-Bye.



VOLUNTEER! STILL NEEDED

More Complete Job Descriptions Were In Prior Rockhounds

EDITOR

Assemble input from various sources. The Board will supply you with Microsoft Publisher program or equivalent for your easy use to produce final copy. Lots of clip art and articles are available along with assistance. If are willing to take on the job, contact Andy Celmer <Abcpec@comcast.net> or 301 865 4442.

SHOW DEMONSTRATIONS CHAIR

Solicit demonstrators for 2013 Show in December or early in January. Many continue year-to-year but commitment is needed. Cultivate relationships with potential new demonstrators (such as sculptors, jewelers, etc.) with an overall good representation relating to the earth sciences. Coordinate spaces and special requests. Questions may be addressed to Bob Irby <irbyre@verizon.net> or 301 540 5033.

ROSTER CHANGES

Add back rejoined members inadvertently not noted since Jan Roster issued:

CILETTI, Michael and BROOKS, 20007 Hob Hill Way, Montgomery Village MD 20886-1306,
215 266 3232, optimize life.michael@gmail.com

DURLAND, Eric and Alison, 12607 Bluhill Road, Silver Spring MD 20906-4102, 301 962-1116
Edurland1@yahoo.com

Edward, Nathan

THOMPSEN, Eric and Melissa, 13367 Hungerford Place, Herndon VA 20170-4318, 703 435 3849,
Eric: eric@wcc-ip.com, Melissa Melissa@wcc-ip.com

Delete

BALLARD, David - Deceased

REIMHERR, Helen - No longer member

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES The June 11, 2012 meeting was called to order by President Andy Celmer at 7:45 pm, with approximately 75 people attending. It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2012 regular meeting and May 21, 2012 board of director's meeting.

FRA: Holly McNeil presented the Stone Age Tools and Art badge to Abbie Olshin and Elena Olshin. Good work, young ladies! Holly warned the parents she is assigning summer homework to the Mocks. They are a hard working bunch of kids!

President: President Andy Celmer did not have any major announcements, but wished everyone a wonderful summer!

Treasurer: Andy Muir thanked Steve and Holly McNeil for reviewing the 2011 financial records of the Society. Their audit report indicated no evidence of significant errors or omissions and that the financial reports appear to be fairly stated. Andy also said the Society continues to be in excellent financial shape and there was little activity on income or expenses this month.

Membership: It was M/S/P to approve membership for Steven Calamuci, Brad Mobray, and Margaret (Peggy) Rice.

Show: A volunteer is needed to coordinate demonstrators at the annual club show. Bob Irby described the duties. Bob was thanked for his service. JoAnn Mohr will continue to make bags for the show. She is in need of fabric and will need volunteers to string them.

Guest Editor and EFMLS Liaison: Wendell Mohr announced a cabochon cutting class at the Clearwater Nature Center.

Field Trips: Jonathan Harris mentioned the Society trip to Churchville quarry and an opportunity to collect fluorescent minerals at night at the Sterling Hill mine in Ogdensburg, NJ, both on June 16. Several other trips have been publicized via e-mail. Jonathan brought quartz crystals, known as "Herkimer diamonds," to give away to interested Society members.

Presentation: Vice president Chris Luzier introduced the speaker for the evening, Bob Farrar, who presented "The Cruzeiro Mine: World's Greatest Tourmaline Mine." Bob visited the mine as part of a tour of gem mines in the Minas Gerais state of Brazil. This granitic pegmatite site was first mined in 1915 for mica, and supplied over 100,000 tons during World War II. Since the 1950's, the mine has been a major source of gemstones, most famously elbaite tourmaline including red to pink rubellite, and also blue, green, and watermelon colors. Run by the Neves family since 1982, the mine also produces beryl (aquamarine and morganite) schorl, quartz crystals. The family sells the gems through their company, Nevestones.



W. Mohr Photo

Bob explained that the host rock at the mine is highly weathered and much of the feldspar has been transformed into kaolin that is relatively easy to dig to extract the gems. Five productive veins have been followed via tunnels in the hillside. Bob shared wonderful photos of him and his tour group climbing down 100 feet on a series of ladders at a precarious 60-degree tilt to view the workings, including a 4-foot pocket of huge quartz crystals.

Why do many folks consider the Cruzeiro Mine to be the greatest tourmaline mine in the world? Bob believes there are three reasons. First, the productivity of the mine is huge: Eight tons of tourmaline were mined in 2010, with 5% being gem quality (2 million carats). Second, the Cruzeiro rubellite is considered to be the finest quality in the world. Third, the mine has been producing gems for over 60 years, and it is estimated that only 20% of the deposit has been mined so far! Overall, the audience response showed this was a stunning presentation by Bob.

Rod Towers administered the junior's door prize. Joel Rosen administered the show table and the drawings for the door and show table prizes.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm.

Andy Muir, Secretary *pro tem*.



NO BOARD MEETING was held in June therefore there are no meeting minutes.

GET WELL WISHES AGAIN! to Jack Busch who suffered a second fall resulting in another gash on his head. He tells the floor, "We've got to stop meeting this way." We all hope that he will be all recuperated during the summer so he will be in good shape by the time of the September meeting.



WILDACRES WORKSHOP This is the last notice you will receive for this year. It is not too late to register for the Fall season September 3 - 9. Fee is only \$370 per person including room and board for the week. See < <http://efmls-wildacres.org/>> for details. You can use the easy on-line fillable form to register. If you do not have web capability, contact Wendell Mohr for information and forms. Space is limited so register today.

JUNE 11th PRIZES

Junior Door Prize: David Weiss seemed very happy to take home a planetarium donated by Rod Towers.

General Door Prize: Diane Leaman enjoyed capturing the Barite, Pyrite, & Enargite from the Colqiyirca Mine, Dept. of Pasco, Peru, a donation from Juan Proaño.

Show Table Prize: Lucky Ryan Gunnison is making a habit of winning and took home a Barite on Quartz from Mexico.

Each also received a copy of *Minerals Magazine* courtesy of Matt Charsky

Joel Sez: Next! Quickly! And get your Show Table Prize Ticket!





FIELD TRIPS

Saturday, July 14th, 09:00 am. National Limestone Quarry, 217 Quarry Rd., Mt. Pleasant Mills, PA 17853. Members of mineral clubs in the Eastern Federation are cordially invited by the Northern Virginia Mineral Club to this trip which they scheduled.

Meet at the Quarry entrance at 9:00 am (no later!) for safety briefing and signing waiver forms. Mr. Stahl will give a short presentation of how he came to know Jesus (this is the cost of admission for everyone who comes to the quarry.) Mr. Stahl also collects small, pretty, labeled mineral specimens for the mineral collection at the quarry office so bringing one to give him would be a nice gesture.

Note: The current owners of the mine, the Stahl brothers, are currently in negotiations to sell out and the likely new owners are not going to allow collecting. This may well be our last trip there.

Children ten and older are permitted, but a parent must stay near and supervise their children and leave the quarry with them if they get too restless to be safe. Parent also must agree to our club's waiver

Please RSVP to Jonathan Harris by July 10 <jgharris7@gmail.com> with "National Limestone" in the subject line or phone 301 545 0808. Quarries are now often requesting that we have a minimum number of people so that their employees' time will be used effectively. Thus it is important that people who sign up on these and other trips attend.

Directions: (About 150 miles, 3 hours, drive time from Rockville.) Take I-270 to Frederick, then US 15 North. Stay on US 15 after Camp Hill PA past Liverpool PA. Turn left onto PA-104 North. Cross PA 35 and go north on Route 104 about one-third of a mile and make the first left turn (Heister Valley Rd).

Proceed a little ways to the first left turn on Freemont Road, then Right on Quarry Road.



Courtesy Google Maps

Minerals to be found: Cacozenite, Calcite, Celestine, Fluorite, Strontianite, and Wavellite. The quarry is perhaps best known for its Strontianite and Wavellite. There are also fossils and bits of caves in the limestone rubble and usually great quantities of Calcite.

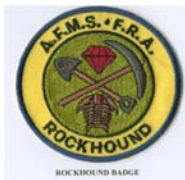
This is a road rock quarry. Some areas may have fresh activity from blasting, but most will not. There are 2 main areas: one with sandstone and one with limestone. Expect to do some hard rock mining to find good specimens. For wavellite wet the rock and look for green circles (tiny 1" across) examining carefully. A 5 gallon bucket of water or maybe a handheld water sprayer would help. Breaking limestone rock open may reveal pockets of strontianite and calcite. We will be allowed to drive our vehicles into the quarry.

FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS OF AMERICA (The MOCKS) Ages 10-15.
NO MEETING JULY AND AUGUST

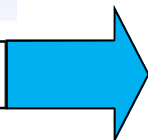
Next Meeting Date: September 10, 2012. **Meeting time:** 7:45 - 9:00 pm.

Meeting Location: Sunroom Cafeteria at the Rockville Senior Center

CONGRATULATIONS to Abbie Olshin and Elena Olshin for earning the Stone Age Tool & Arts Badge. Nice work!



Photos by
W. Mohr



June 11th Meeting recap: “Square cut or pear shape these rocks don’t lose their shape....”* or do they? DIAMONDS was the topic for June. We talked about what makes diamonds so special, learned how they are formed and brought to the surface of the earth, and discussed diamond mining and economics. We briefly touched on the manufacture of synthetic diamonds. We covered the 4C’s – cut, clarity, color and carat weight. For cut we discussed the way diamonds act on light and vice versa and the science behind facets and diamond cuts. We learned the derivation of the term “carat,” and then discussed inclusions and blemishes and how these clarity characteristics affect value. Color was next and there was some dissention about “D” being the highest grade in the GIA grading system, but we “D”cided we could live with it. We discussed what causes different colors in diamonds, and how colored (or “fancy”) diamonds are graded differently from “colorless” diamonds. For some added fun, we talked about recent auction results that broke per carat price records for fancy diamonds.

Thank you to Harry Winston Inc. New York for the gift of their latest catalogue that the group enjoyed perusing.

*Jule Styne, “Diamonds Are a Girl’s Best Friend”, song lyrics for the Broadway production of *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*, 1949

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

WEB SITE

You can always read this and past Rockhounds on our Society web site, which is managed by Becky Dahlman. Of course there is much additional information about our group as well on the site. She deserves your thanks for very ably and quietly doing the job. See <<http://www.glmsmc.com/>> .

AWARD Junior Member Savannah Muir was awarded the Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Award from the Science Department at Magruder High School in early June. The award is sponsored by the University of Rochester. She might be awarded a scholarship to the University worth \$7,500 per year for four years. Savannah did very well in Advanced Placement Biology this year (a two-period class, one for lecture and one for laboratory work). Congrats, Savannah! Currently she’s on her way to Paris with a friend to take language classes. They will stay with a host family for three weeks.

AFMS SCHOLARSHIP

The EFMLS honorees this year are Carolyn and Steve Weinberger. Known for their work both at EFMLS and AFMS. Steve is a past president of EFMLS & AFMS. Carolyn has been editor of the EFMLS and AFMS for centuries.....and they are also involved in the famous Wildacres. Steve has presented programs to our Society on micromounting and faceting.

Their choices for the actual student recipients of the monetary scholarship awards are:
Lisa Walsh, University of MD, Ph.D. - Earthquake Study
Kevin Miller, University of MD, Ph.D. - Study of Mantle Rocks



MINI MINERS Ages 6-9

NO MEETING JULY AND AUGUST

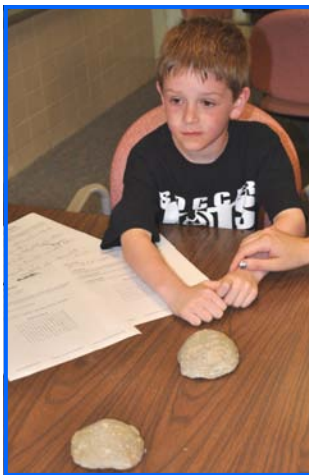
Next Meeting Date: September 10th, 2012 Meeting time: 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Meeting Location: The Card Room at the Rockville Senior Center

June 11th Meeting:

The Mini Miners examined the different types of fossils.
We also had a great time discussing our favorite places to look for fossils.
Homework for the summer: Get out and look for rocks!

For more information contact Linda Smith 301-530-5007 or Tunacat107@aol.com



Photographs by
W. Mohr



SHOWS AND EVENTS

July 26 - 29, "A Celebration of Agates."
AFMS Convention and Show and seminars.
Lindbergh Center at Hopkins High School,
2400 Lindbergh Drive, Minnetonka MN.

For information see:

<<http://minnesotamineralclub.org/2012show.htm>>.



September 15 - 16, 47th Annual Show by the
Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Club,
Zembo Shrine, 2801 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg PA
17110. **EFMLS Meeting** Friday September
14th. For information see

<<http://www.rockandmineral.org/>>.

With this ad, \$1.00 off General Admission

GEM MINER'S JUBILEE!!
2012
August 17 - 19
LEBANON, PA
Beads! Findings!
Minerals! Fossils!
Gems & Jewelry!

THE MID-ATLANTIC'S BEST SHOW

RETAIL AND WHOLESALE EXHIBITORS
CLASSES, TAILGATING & CAMPING
BEAD, JEWELRY AND MINERAL RELATED DEMONSTRATIONS
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ❖ WHOLESALE ROOM

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, AUG. 17-18: 10 A.M. - 6 P.M.
SUNDAY, AUG 19: 10 A.M. - 4 P.M.

\$6 ADMISSION - CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE

Lebanon Expo Center: Route 72
5 mi. N. of PA Turnpike—Exit 266 (old exit 20),
right on Rocherty Road.
www.gem-show.com
(see website for updates)
(717) 838-8870

September 22 -23, 48th Annual Gem and Mineral Show hosted
by The Gem Cutter's Guild of Baltimore. Howard County Fairgrounds, MD 32 at I-70, West Friendship
MD.

2012 EFMLS REGION IV PICNIC AND ROCK SWAP SATURDAY AUGUST 25th

Hosted by the Southern Maryland Rock & Mineral Club and Carl Miller, EFMLS Region IV Vice President. From 9 am to 3 pm at Gilbert Run Park, 13140 Charles Street, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622. The venue is a shaded, hill-top pavilion with 15 picnic tables in the woods above a 60 acre lake. There is a large brick grill at one end of the pavilion, and there are restroom facilities. A 100 ft. path with steps leads to the pavilion from a reserved paved parking lot. Vehicles may drive up a short gravel road to unload at the top (no parking at the top.)

This is a Potluck Picnic so please bring picnic food to share.

Due to a limited budget for this event, we are asking area clubs to help by donating and bringing specific items. Please let us know which items you are willing to furnish by August 20th via email to <dave.lines@earthlink.net> and we will post who volunteers to bring what by email as soon as we find out. We need the following:

1. Soft drinks (no alcohol in the park) / bottled water / iced tea - enough for 100 people.
2. Four large coolers with 100 pounds of crushed ice.
3. Hotdogs & buns for 50 people (Richmond Gem and Mineral Society volunteered to do this one.)
4. Hamburgers with buns for 75 people.
5. Condiments - ketchup, mustard, relish, mayo.
6. Plastic cups & plates / plastic utensils / napkins for 125 people.
7. Approximately 20 lbs. charcoal & starter fluid, grilling utensils, and a volunteer cook.

Guests are Welcome. Other activities in this Park include a 2 mile walking path around the lake, fishing (license required), boat rental, playground, horseshoe pits (one by our pavilion), volleyball, and concession stand.



Continued on Page 9

Continued from Page 8

Approximate Schedule of Events as Follows:

8:00 am - pavilion available for our use.

9:00 am to 12 noon - swapping of rock, mineral and fossil specimens.

12:00 noon to 1:00 pm - picnic lunch for all.

1:00 pm (or after lunch) - door prizes drawn followed by the auction.

Attendees are kindly requested to donate labeled mineral or fossil specimens for door prizes and auction.

2:00 pm - swapping continues until 3 pm.

3:00 pm - picnic over / clean-up area / drive home safely.

Other Info: Optional - You may wish to bring camping chairs for your comfort.

Region IV Treasure Box - As before, there will be the Treasure Box that everyone can take stuff from - for FREE. The theme has always been: "One person's 'extras' may be another person's treasure." Please bring lots of your "extras" (e.g. specimens, capping material, and other rock related items) to put in the Treasure Box. It is great fun, and who knows? You may really find a super treasure!

Please forward all 2012 Region IV Picnic/Swap related questions/comments to Dave Lines by email at <dave.lines@earthlink.net> or by phone at 240-427-7062.

Directions: From Rockville take the I-270S toward Washington. Take the left exit onto I-270S. Merge onto I-495E continuing on I-495S/I-95S. Take exit to merge onto MD5S (Branch Ave.) Where US301 Branches off to the right, **turn left** onto MD5S/Mattawoman Beantown Rd. Turn left onto MD5 S/ Leonardtown Rd. At Bryantown, turn right onto Olivers Shop Rd. Turn left onto MD6 E/Charles St. Look for brown Gilbert Run Park sign - Park Entrance is on LEFT. Pay \$4 per vehicle Daily Use Fee, continue STRAIGHT through Park Entrance BEARING LEFT. Go 0.3 miles to paved parking area on RIGHT for Hilltop Pavilion. You may drive to the top to unload and then re-park in the paved parking lot below Pavilion. Follow path up to the Pavilion. Drive time about 1 hour 35 minutes.

Bonus field trip info:

Several excellent fossil hunting sites (open to the public) are within 30 miles of the picnic location. Low tide on the Chesapeake Bay at Matoaka Beach Cabins is 3:18 pm (Fee: \$4/adult, \$2/child under 12.) Low tide at Purse State Park on the Potomac River is 7:58 pm (sunset is 7:49 pm. Fee: free.)

PATUXENT LAPIDARY GUILD CLASSES

Summer courses (All classes run 1- 5pm) offered in Annapolis include:

Saturday, July 7, European 4 in 1 Variations (Chain Maille.)

Saturday and Sunday, July 21 and 22, Patina.

Saturday, July 28, Half Persian 4 in 1 (Chain Maille.)

For more information: Go to their web site <<http://www.patuxentlapidary.org/>>, click on

“Class Descriptions” at top of page and select “July 2012.”



I was having trouble with my computer, so I called my 11-year-old next-door neighbor, whose bedroom looks like Mission Control, and asked him to come over. It only took a couple of button clicks for him to solve the problem. As he was walking away, I called after him, “So, what was wrong?” He replied, “It was an ID ten T error.” I didn’t want to appear stupid, but nonetheless inquired, “An, ID ten T error? What’s that? In case I need to fix it again?” He grinned. “Haven’t you ever heard of an ID ten T error before?” “No,” I replied. “Write it down,” he said, “and I think you’ll figure it out.” So I wrote down:

“I D 1 0 T” I used to like him..... From Rock Rustler’s News, Minnesota Mineral Club Aug 2009

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH 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”. In keeping with that role:

Thanks to **GEORGE DURLAND** for giving a talk at the Gaithersburg Youth Center on May 1st. The title was “Rocks and Minerals” including a section on fluorescence, phosphorescence and tenebrescence. About 6 young people were in attendance with one of the leaders at the youth center who as quite knowledgeable about earth science. All the young people were very interested about rocks and minerals and were appreciative about the presentation. George tells the editor that “It is my pleasure to spread the word about rocks and minerals and I have fun doing it.”



Photo by W. Mohr

George also put a fluorescent exhibit titled “Some Franklin & Sterling Hill Rocks, & Some Also-Rans for Comparison” in the 39th Annual New Jersey Earth Science Association’s Gem & Mineral Show and Outdoor Swap & Sell on April 28th and 29th. The exhibit was billed as courtesy of the GLMSMC. There were probably at least a dozen members of our club in attendance for the show and the outdoor night dig at the Sterling Hill mine. Good work, George.

CONRAD SMITH gave an out-reach presentation at Ashburton Elementary School on May 31st. Returning to his former school he shared his wealth of knowledge with the kids. He spoke to 4 sessions of 4th graders (About 120!) on Rocks an Minerals, Minerals in Everyday Life.

Teacher, Heather Weaver, said “We are so grateful that he is willing to come back.” Thanks so much for our dedicated junior member. GLMSMC is indebted for the dedication of these members willing to take of their own time for this worthwhile undertaking. You too??



Photo by Heather M. Weaver

NORTH AMERICAN EMERALD MINES (Formerly the Rist Mine.) Member Allison Abernathy went to the (NAEM) Dig at Hiddenite NC over Memorial Day weekend. She reports that “she was there on Sunday but did not see anyone from our club. Met some nice rockhounds though.”

“I did not come close to the \$10,000 limit. I found some beautiful specimens, though. While I was there no one found a significant emerald, though apparently there was a good find earlier in the weekend. While I was there, the staff dumped a dig bucket from the earlier find out on the tables and a couple of folks found very small, pale ‘emerald’ crystals. All yelled ‘Emerald!’ but I thought they were pretty pale and silently wondered ‘green beryl’?”



Photograph supplied by Allison

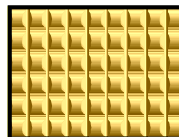
I found the same type of pale green crystals in a rock matrix in the very last rock I picked up before going back to the hotel! I understand that purists claim that an emerald must have chromium... but without a spectrograph I do not honestly know whether to call it an emerald or green beryl. But maybe I am overthinking it...”

See <http://www.amfed.org/sfms/_pdf/Lodestar_april2012.pdf> for the April 2012 LODESTAR newsletter of the Southeast Federation, and go to Pages 4 & 5 for an article By Carl Talbott, SFMS Editor. See <<http://www.northcarolinaemeralds.info/HiddeniteDistrict/NAEMMine/NAEM.htm>>

For information from the mine owners.

No Waffling About These Sites.

By Webdell Mohr



They Are Good.

WEB SITES



Photo Courtesy Wikipedia

Novarupta Volcano, <<http://geology.com/novarupta/>>, is in Alaska. This site from Geology.com is about the most powerful eruption in the world during the 20th century. June marked the 100th anniversary of the event. The eruption of about 3 cubic miles of magma (about 30 times the 1980 Mt. St. Helens eruption) and its impact are explored. Pyroclastic flows, ash, the resultant Valley of 10,000 Smokes, and the confusion with nearby Katmai Volcano are described. Learn a lot about the event.

- Shortly after the big eruption they put up a sign: “Closed for remodeling.” Is a micromount a premature eruption? •

John Dyer & Company, <www.johndyergems.com> has a beautiful commercial site. John Dyer is from Edina MN, and an award winning gem cutter. As is customary we are not endorsing his business but the site is extensive and useful. There are video tutorials on how to distinguish good and bad gemstone faceting, how to cut gemstones, and a short one about silver spot iolite. “Catalog” leads to a very wide variety of custom cut gemstone material. Be a voyeur and check out the color, style, shape, and gem material. See his awards and check his design gallery. Under “About Gems”, are a variety of topics including the intriguing AGTA treatment codes. • Faceting: A complex way to ruin a good mineral. New book just out: *Blue Garnets* by Madge Ination. •



Photo R.Weller Cochise College



The Mountain Pass rare earth element mine, Mojave Desert, California, with Clark Mountain in the background. Photo credit: USGS

57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb	71 Lu
89 Ac	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	95 Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No	103 Lr

Rare Earth Elements, are in the news recently because of the tight supply after export restrictions by China, the way-major supplier.

See <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rare_earth_element> for a comprehensive Wikipedia summary. They feature a list with the symbol, name, etymology and applications, discovery and early history, spectroscopy, geological distribution, and global rare earth production among others. With the strategic importance of the elements in today's technological climate, the

Mountain Pass mines in CA are being re-activated. See <www.molycorp.com/> for the **Molycorp** corporate web page. Note “Project Phoenix”, and check out the pictures, fly-over videos, and virtual tour of the mining venture as well as the science center.

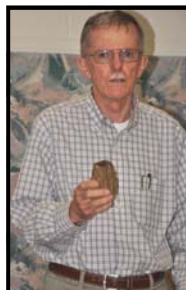
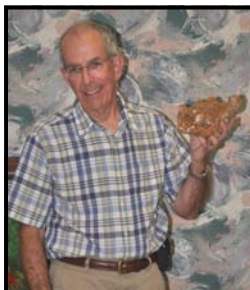
- What 5 chemical elements make chocolate? Carbon (C), Holmium (Ho), Cobalt (Co), Lanthanum (La), and Tellurium (Te). Together they make chocolate (C Ho Co La Te) •

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION NMNH DINOSAUR HALL Are you one who admires “Before” and “After” or “What’s Changed” pictures to compare the differences? Well you need to visit the present hall, closing in the Spring of 2014 for physical and scholarly updating and re opening targeted for 2019. The estimated cost is \$45 million and a much needed gift of \$35 million was received from benefactor David H. Koch already. If you love dinos, why don’t you contribute a million or two?

Strip mining prevents forest fires!

SHOW TABLE: June 11th, 2012. Thanks to those who bring items for sharing at the meetings.

<u>Exhibitor</u>	<u>Specimen (s)</u>	<u>Locality</u>
Frances Becker	Amethyst	Not given
Boe Brosius	Various gemstones	Various
	Herkimer "Diamonds" (Quartz)	Herkimer NY
Barbara Burr	Mystery Rock*	VA
Andy Celmer	Carnelian*	OR
George Durland	Mcgovernite	Sterling Hill Mine, Ogdensburg NJ
	Calcite, Willemite, Barite, Sphalerite	Sterling Hill Mine, Ogdensburg NJ
Gerald Elgert	Labradorite Bolo Made by Elmer Lantz* (Wildacres)	
Don Greaves	Temaska Fern Fossil, Coal age	PA
Ryan Gunnison	Knightia Fish Fossil	Green River WY
Elmer Lantz	3 Faceted Stones*	
	Stellerite	Quarry, Manassas VA
Diane Leaman	Petosky Stone Hexagonaria percarinata	MI
Gary Leaman	Calcite, Apatite, Quartz, Tourmaline	Lower Canada
Joel Rosen	Barite on Quartz	Xiefang, Jiangxi Prov., China
Wendell Mohr	Calcite Pseudo after Glauberite*	Camp Verde AZ
Andy Muir	Fluorite	Unknown
	Calcite and Scheelite	Oracle AZ
	Powellite	Poona District, India
Tom Parnell	Halite	Salton Sea CA
Conrad Smith	Prehnite, Apophyllite*	Vulcan Q., Manassas VA
Linda Smith	Stilbite on Diabase*	Vulcan Q., Manassas VA
Rod Towers	Pyrite and Quartz	Peru
Petra Trebohansingh	Strontianite*	Mt. Pleasant PA
	Calcite "dog tooth"*	Mt. Pleasant PA
	Prehnite, Actinolite*	Vulcan Q., Manassas VA



Photographs by W. Mohr

Participate at the Show Table to increase your chances of winning a prize!

SAFETY NOTE - RATTLESNAKES! by Owen Martin, AFMS Safety Chair

The following is an excerpt taken from the State of Florida's guide for field surveyors. Since we travel off the beaten path in a similar fashion when in the field I thought it would be interesting to see how the state approaches the issue of "snake safety."

Snakebites of surveyors are quite rare, yet the dreaded hazard of rattlesnakes abounds through Florida. Even if preventive measures fail, current knowledge and treatment offer the best prognosis ever for snakebite victims.



Though seemingly rare, poisonous snakes annually bite 6,500 to 7,000 Americans. Always take the following precautions:

1. Always assume snakes are active. Do not relax your vigil on sunny winter days.
2. Do not make "solo" trips across snake country which is remote from habitations and frequently used roads.
3. When traversing brush or grassy terrain, use a "decoy" such as a level rod or a lath, alongside your legs. Walk heavily to create vibrations that can be felt by snakes (a snake does not hear).
4. Walk away from the shaded side of clumps and bushes when the weather is hot and sunny.
5. Step atop logs and large rocks, instead of stepping over them and into unseen areas. The safest policy is to walk around such obstacles.
6. Do not jump down from overhangs onto areas where snakes might be hidden from view
7. Avoid steep climbs if possible where a snake, uphill from you, could strike the upper portions of your body. Bites on the torso, the neck, and the head are much more damaging and more difficult to treat than those on the limbs.
8. Never climb vertical or near vertical faces where handholds on unseen areas above your head are required.
9. Do not attempt, under any circumstances, to capture snakes!!
10. Do not try to kill a snake unless it is a positive threat to safety.
11. Avoid likely snake areas such as small rodent trails, pack rats' nests or gopher tortoise dens.
12. When necessary to move low-lying logs, large rocks and boards, use a pry bar, not your hands.
13. Double your precautions at night, especially in warm weather.
14. Keep vehicles near your work area for rapid transport if a snakebite should occur.
15. If at all possible, maintain radio contact with isolated employee.
16. Know the location of the nearest medical facility where anti-venom is available and the quickest route there.
17. Do not collect rattles. A fine and highly abrasive dust often accumulates inside the rattles and can cause lasting damage to the eyes.
18. Wear high leather boots or snake-leggings in high-hazard areas.
19. Remember that rattlesnakes do not always signal their presence by rattling.



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