



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.”

Why did you join the GLMSMC? Was it because you have a fascination with rocks or fossils? Was it just for a chance to get out of the house in a social environment once a month? Was it because it gave you a chance to go on field trips to mines that you wouldn't otherwise get into?

Whatever the reason, if you are still coming, then the club is apparently doing its job. So, is \$15/year (\$20 for families) enough of a return to the club for your membership? Is there any way you can contribute to the growth, activities, or overall health of the club? The simple answer is yes. There are always plenty of opportunities for you to contribute – beyond the annual show – and even beyond my requests for articles.

A perfect example can be found in the President's Message below regarding our upcoming 50th Anniversary Show. That one, all we are asking for (at least for now) are your ideas. Another opportunity is when the club has a chance to buy new display cases or a new specimen collection or hold an auction. For each of these, members are needed to view the items and offer their opinion. There also opportunities during the meeting. It seems the same people are bringing in items to put on the show table. Have you ever brought in a specimen? Could you?

Of course, you are thinking about making a more major contribution, the club is looking for candidates to be the new Secretary or Vice President. Those are big jobs and sound scary, but you wouldn't be going it alone. We are a club and help each other out – that's sort of the reason you joined, isn't it?

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Kristin Colmaugh

REGULAR MEETINGS

Meetings are held the 2nd Monday of the month from September to June. The Society will meet on **Monday, May 13, 2013**, 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. Our speaker will be Dr. Bob Farrar who will share his knowledge of Brazilian Amethyst mining, with a presentation named "The Land of Amethyst - And More". Bob has just returned from Ametista do Sul, Brazil which is the central location for Brazilian Amethyst mining. Bob has been collecting rocks, minerals, and fossils for more than 40 years. He has traveled extensively in pursuit of rock collecting, including many trips to Brazil. He has written a number of articles about his travels for *Rock & Gem Magazine* and other publications. He holds a Ph.D. in Entomology and works for the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Beltsville, Maryland.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Meeting will be held **Monday, May 20, 2013**, at the home of Andy Muir. All Board members are expected to be there. Any member is welcome to attend but kindly let Andy know if you plan to attend at amuir21@comcast.net or phone 301-990-1370.

Deadline for the June issue of *The Rockhounder* is May 25, 2013.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: HELLO SEEKERS

The EFMLS, Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary Societies Convention is fast approaching. The Convention runs from Friday May 31st to Monday June 3rd. The Club can sponsor a voting Delegate and the Club awards up to \$200 toward expenses, receipts required. Keep in mind \$200 won't go very far on Long Island, NY. I'll be there and I will be staying at a State Campground. The Delegate should be a member for at least one year, worked for the Club at least 4 hours and agree to write an article for the newsletter about the convention. The duties of the Delegate are to attend and vote at the Annual Meeting on Friday May 31st at 7:30pm. Contact me if you are interested. More info can be found at <http://www.amfed.org/efmls/conventionp.htm>

We will be looking for a new President, and Vice President, and Secretary for next year's Board, so if you see me walking toward you at the meeting, "Be Afraid, Be Very Afraid!"

We are in the process of purchasing *new to us* display cases for the show, remember the show? We are planning on more Display Case Exhibitions for our 50th Anniversary Show. This is a perfect Segway to your ideas for the 50th Anniversary Show. No, not the 2 wheel Segway, but your ideas for the show and my Great Transition Skills, that Segway!

Bob Simonoff: Contact other museums for mineral displays. Who has contacts within other museums?

Sam Linton: Commemorative take-away that advertises the club and brings in new people. Tin is the 50th element so Sam suggests Cassiterite samples with a GLMSMC label.

Frances Becker: Lots of flowers around to commemorate members who have gone to the Great Rock Pile in the Sky.

Doug Baum: A look-back at the first 50 years of our club. Highlight our new Parker Mineral Collection of Maryland. Have a major fundraising event dinner/banquet.

Jonathan Harris: The Gold Display of the MNCPPC. Use the best regional specimens from members for a club case.

Wendy DeWolfe: The Meteorite Men Geoff Notkin and Steve Arnold, Scott F. Wolter, he is a Forensic Geologist and is on a TV show called America Unearthed or others for a talk or presentation. We could rent the room behind the snack bar and there is another small room on the second floor that has a stage.

Does any of this excite you? Would you be willing to research, price and/or spearhead any of these ideas?

Contact me if you can help, the time to plan this is Now! Oh yes, I almost forgot! We had numerous requests for the Chippendales, but they are way over our budget. Sorry! Still accepting ideas,

Andy B, Prez (the B stands for Bad!)

CLUB MEETING MINUTES: APRIL 8, 2013

The April 8, 2013, meeting was called to order by President Andy Celmer at 7:44 pm, with approximately 82 people attending. It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2013, regular meeting and the March 2013 BOD actions.

FRA: Holly McNeil presented many mineral special effects badges after the efforts of the MOCKS at the show touch table.

Membership: It was M/S/P to accept the membership applications Keane family.

Show: Andy Celmer thanked all those who helped in some way at the show. Joel Rosen also thanked those that help with set-up and take down. He also noted the excellent exhibit displaying the Maryland collection recently purchased by the club. Mark Dahlman has a scarf and umbrella from the show lost and found. Pat Repik-Byrne added her thanks to volunteers.

PRIZE WINNERS!

Junior Table:

Quartz with Mica, Charles Mine, Raymond, NH – Claire DeSalvo
Tourmaline in Quartz, Fort Belvoir, VA – Cassie DeSalvo

Show Table:

Agate Slices (5), Various Locations – Jeffrey Cessna

General:

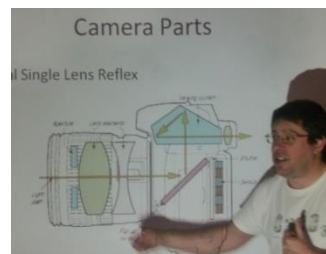
Quartz on Sphalerite, Animon Mine, Dept of Pasco, Peru – Barb Burr

CONGRATULATIONS!

Field Trips: Jonathan Harris discussed several upcoming field trips. He brought material from Vulcan Quarry in Manassas to give away.

President: Andy Celmer announced the silent auction of a large Maryland native copper and an asbestos specimen with partial proceeds donated to the club. Both items later sold for \$150 and \$20, respectively. Andy also announced an additional donation to the Lillian Turner Fund by her son Steve Turner. The fund is used to support junior activities and the Lillian Turner award. The club picked up rough and finished jade material from the Vance collection for later auction. The club needs a volunteer delegate to attend the upcoming EFMLS show in Long Island. Partial travel support is available to an active established member with the condition of writing a report for *The Rockhounder*.

Presentation: Vice president Chris Luzier introduced the speaker for the evening, Bob Simonoff. Bob gave a presentation on Photography of Minerals. He explained the principles of camera operation as a basis for discussing how aperture, shutter speed, ISO, and lighting interact to work for and against the photographer. He then gave his opinion on how to use these aspects along with lighting, camera stabilization, and composition to either achieve a certain effect or overcome a complication. He used examples of good and bad macro and micro photos of minerals to illustrate various issues. Also included were tips for photographing fluorescent minerals such as using long exposure to allow complete UV illumination of the sample from several angles. Bob also discussed several tips including staging, magnification, and post-processing. Thanks, Bob.



(Photo by Kristin Lolmaugh)

EFML Liaison: Wendell Mohr noted the lack of basic safety equipment in the new TV series *The Prospector*. He suggested that those similarly concerned by this bad example contact the show and the Weather Channel with their concerns. He discussed many upcoming local and regional shows.

Treasurer: Andy Muir reported preliminary numbers from the show, including an 18% increase in attendance over last year.

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

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:58 PM.

Jeff Cessna, Secretary

BOARD MEETING MINUTES: APRIL 15, 2013

The board meeting was called to order at 7:37 PM. Since Secretary Jeff Cessna was unable to attend, minutes were taken by Jonathan Harris.

Board Members Present: Andy Muir, Joel Rosen, Andy Celmer, Wendell Mohr, Chris Luzier, and Jonathan Harris; **Guest Present:** Mark Dahlman

Treasurer: Andy Muir presented the Treasurer's report. The financial position is still solid; the income from the show exceeded expectation; and we should consider using a better cash box next year. The board discussed and passed a motion to buy the 26 newer GLMS-DC cases at \$75/piece and spend \$300 to acquire boxes for their storage. The board decided not to buy the older cases because they were no better than what we currently have and we would be unlikely to need them. We anticipate picking up the cases sometime in May. Mark Dahlman will follow-up with the DC club to set up arrangements for purchase and pickup of the cases. Chris agreed to follow-up on looking for a second, small, used trailer for hauling and storing the additional cases as Joel indicated that the current trailer likely did not have the capacity for them. Some unakite (about 5 pounds) has been donated to the club via Holly. Andy Celmer will contact Holly about auctioning it at the next club meeting.

Property Manager: Joel Rosen acquired new door prizes that should encourage attendance and participation at our meetings. He also raised the issue of unused lamps and worn ratchet straps used to keep the stacks of cases from sliding in the trailer. The board decided to keep the lamps for potential usage in demonstration areas at the show where some had complained that lighting was poor. The board unanimously passed a motion for Joel to spend up to \$50 buying replacement ratchet straps.

Other Business: Andy Celmer signed a letter drafted by Andy Muir thanking Steve Turner for his generous donations that fund the Lillian Turner Fund. Andy M indicated he would send Lance Kearns a \$500 donation and thank you for the well-attended visit to James Madison University this past winter. Andy Celmer also indicated that Steve Turner recommended improved signage directing people to the show – in particular a large sign marking the building that houses the show. He added the Steve could arrange for such signs to be made at no cost to the club. Mark will investigate where we can place such signs and what type of signs to make. Wendell recommended that our newsletter include a brief explanation of our 501C status so that readers would be aware that donations to the club are tax deductible.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:38 PM.

Jeff Cessna, Secretary

UPCOMING PRIZES – DON’T MISS YOUR CHANCE

You don’t want to miss your chance to acquire these pieces that Joel Rosen purchased at our annual show. These beauties will be given away in upcoming club meetings – as door prizes and show table prizes (*Photos by Joel Rosen*)



THE LURE AND LORE OF ROCKS: KYANITE

BY KRISTIN LOLMAUGH

Kyanite derives its name from the Greek word ‘kyanos’, meaning blue. Some say Archangel Michael’s sword is made of a blade of kyanite. The sword cuts to the heart of the truth. It was once believed that a kyanite suspended from a human hair could follow the Earth’s magnetic force. Early travelers sometimes used it as a compass when exploring unknown territories. The color can be blue, white, gray or green. Color is often not consistent throughout the crystal and can be blotchy or in streaks.

Some people believe blue kyanite helps open psychic ability, enhances telepathic communication, and assists in lucid dreaming. It combines well with green kyanite to open the heart chakra. The fan-like clusters or blades that are formed by kyanite make it an ideal stone for restoring energy balance. It is a very effective energy conduit that can balance most systems of the body. It can quickly create stillness and tranquility, making it an excellent stone for meditation.



(Photos by Kristin Lolmaugh)

Dillwyn, in Buckingham County, Virginia, is home to the world’s largest kyanite mining operation, owned and operated by the Kyanite Mining Corporation at Willis Mountain. Occasionally the corporation will allow rock and gem clubs to spend a couple of hours collecting rocks on the mountain. I was lucky enough to go there on a club field trip.



MOCKS EARN BADGES

BY HOLLY MCNEIL

For the “Special Effects” badge, the MOCKS learned about the properties and behavior of light, specifically refraction, diffraction and selective absorption. The MOCKS used a dichroscope and spectrometer to see these properties “in action.” With this foundation, the next step was to learn how mineral chemistry and structure, in combination with the effects of light, cause “special effects” in minerals such as: chatoyancy, asterism, color change, refraction, pleochroism, adularescence and labradorescence. The next component for the badge was magnetism; the MOCKS spent an entire session learning what causes magnetism, how it works and the impact it has on our daily lives. The scope of the session ranged from tiny electrons to the massive corona of the sun.

The final requirement for earning the badge was to “host a magic show” demonstrating mineral special effects. The MOCKS elected to do this at the touch table during our annual show. The MOCKS practiced at a meeting prior to the show and then worked their “magic” at the show. Fifteen MOCKS members each took a one hour shift at the touch table and shared their knowledge and enthusiasm with our show guests. It was a great success.

The following MOCKS earned the Special Effects badge:

Shayna Berman
Elena Olshin
Ethan Verdi
Ryan Gunnison
Ben Vardi

Jennifer Weiss
Cassie DeSalvo
Cooper Batchelder
Bryce Machalek
Kevin McCright

Abbie Olshin
Jeremy Yee
Trevor Babb
Jonathan Baum
Jered Lottes

In addition to the Special Effects badge, Shayna Berman also earned the Showmanship badge.

If you are interested in learning more about the Future Rockhounds of America program, visit

http://www.amfed.org/fra/AFMS_FRA_Badge_Manual_Revised_2012.pdf.

(Photo by Kristin Lolmaugh)



SILENT AUCTION WINNERS

Boe Brosius won the Asbestos for \$20 and Jonathan Harris won the Copper for \$150. Congratulations! (Photo by Kristin Lolmaugh)



ONYX EGG FOR SALE

It weighs 42 pounds and is a little over 12" tall and about 8" wide at the widest point. If you have interest, it is up to you to contact the seller and negotiate a price. Contact Bob Whitmer, 710 Chestnut Street, York, PA 17403, 717-880-4261 or sailorbob67@yahoo.com



BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

BY ELLERY BOROW, EFMLS SAFETY CHAIR, MAY 2013

We live in a country that often airs its dirty laundry for the world to see. We tend to focus news reports (and even our video games) on war, violence, crime, the taking of life and so on. We often tend to hide the best news on the back pages, behind closed doors, or just not talk about it at all. Well, I'm sorry to say that these safety articles tend to follow that same convention. We write about accidents, falls, hearing loss, foreign bodies in the eye, and so on. Well, what I'd like to do with this article is throw the safety doors open wide and illustrate the good news about safety.

Imagine, if you will, a trip to collect rocks that-goes something like this:

You gather the family and load the truck with collecting tools and supplies. You have a pleasant drive to the dig site. At the collecting area you catch up with other club members and spend the morning making find after find, some of which are treasures indeed! Everyone takes a break at noon for a great picnic lunch. While sitting on a comfortable rock you note a nice crystal right by your foot - a crystal that really deserves to be in your collection what a day! You have several chats with your fellow collectors about sharing information concerning the best places to dig. At the end of a wonderful day of collecting, everyone packs up their tools, trash and treasures, and then loads up truck. You thought you'd found so much that the kids would have to be tied on top of the truck fenders for the ride home. (A place they really like to ride.) But, oh well, you

somehow manage to find space for the kids in the jump seat behind the driver's seat. You get home after another pleasant drive. Once home and unloaded you find yourself tired but not too tired. You start going through your finds and doing some preliminary cleaning. One rock begs to be windowed to see what is inside. You perform some quick lapidary work and are amazed with your new treasure. This has been a good day, a good day indeed!

Gee isn't that a boring story! Everything goes right! And that, dear reader is the reason for safety! Before that good day, the truck was checked/ serviced, safety gear (boots, gloves, safety goggles, etc.) was gathered, and the weather forecast, roads and route were checked. On the day of the trip food was safely prepared and stored; safety gear was utilized in all the collecting effort; and rules of the area observed. The lapidary equipment had it's guards in place and all safety measures were observed. There were no injuries because everyone was prepared, thoughtful and careful.

All those safety precautions make a good day but also a boring day. Maybe that's why good news often does not make the front pages. Still, boring is good when you have nothing but pleasant experiences during a day of collecting -- no injuries, no accidents, no reason to break out the first aid kit, no dust in the lungs. Yes, I'll take boring every time -- except for an occasional great crystal quietly hiding by my foot.

Let's make our collecting boring -- and safe.

GEMSTONE PHENOMENA

BY KRISTIN LOLMAUGH

Special optical effects, known as phenomena, exist in some gemstones. They are part of the nature of the material and are caused by the effects of light itself within the piece. These effects are not due to the gem's basic chemical and crystalline structure, but to the interaction of light with certain inclusions or structural features within the gem. It takes skill to bring out the special effects when working with these gems.

Chatoyancy comes from the French phrase for "eye of the cat," because the reflection exhibits a single bright band of light across the surface of the gemstone and forms a cat's eye. This radiance is caused by inclusions of bundles of parallel particles of fibers of another mineral inside the gems. This phenomenon is commonly seen in cabochons in chrysoberyl, tourmaline, rainbow obsidian, and tiger's eye.

Asterism is derived from the Greek word for "star" and is a type of chatoyancy that exhibits a six-pointed star when cut into a cabochon or other round shape. This "star" is created by the presence of dense inclusions of tiny rutile fibers. This is commonly referred to as "silk" by gemologists and lapidaries. The rutiles are aligned perpendicular to the rays of the star displayed on the surface and create a range of opacity in any stone in which they are present. The most popular star gems are star ruby and star sapphire, but the star can also be found in rose quartz, garnet, spinel, chrysoberyl, diopside, and many others if cut correctly.

Iridescence, from the Greek word for "rainbow," is an optical effect where colors on the surface of the gemstone appear to change with the angle from which it's viewed. Iridescence comes from multiple reflections within two or more transparent or semi-transparent layers. Light enters the top layer and "bounces" around between the layers. It can be found in fire agate, rainbow moonstone, pearls, rainbow obsidian, ammolite, and sunstone.

Labradorescence is a type of iridescence. It comes from repeated, microscopically thin layer (lamellar) twinning in Labradorite feldspar. One of its most notable characteristics is that the twinning is quite specifically oriented within the crystal, making the iridescent display highly directional. It can be seen clearly in its namesake, Labradorite.

Opalescence is named after the gemstone which displays its properties the best: the opal. It refers to a particular pattern in the play of colors within a stone. Similar to iridescence, opalescence is created by the reflection of light within the stone material, and its dispersion out of alignment with its entry. Opals are created of multiple spheres of silica, which trap light as a raindrop does, "bouncing" around inside and exiting to create a rainbow. Some other gemstones exhibiting opalescence are agates, milky quartz, rainbow moonstone.

Aventurescence, from the Italian word for "chance" or accident, is unlike the other phenomena which diffract or scatter light. Aventurescence is a consequence of reflection. When inclusions of another mineral are present, and are of a highly reflective nature so that

Aquamarine Cat's Eye; Star Ruby, Ammolite, Labradorite, Opal, Sunstone
Photographs included are with the permission from GemSelect at www.gemselect.com.

they act as tiny mirrors, the gem sparkles and glitters. The term shiller, is also sometimes used to describe this glow. The most common reflectors are copper, hematite and mica.



MINI MINERS Ages 6-9

Next Meeting Date: May 13, 2013

Time: 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Location: Card Room, Rockville Senior Center

Mini Miners shown enjoying instruction from Conrad Smith. For information about joining them, please contact Linda Smith at 301-530-5007.



(Photos by Kristin Lolmaugh)

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

The club welcomes the Keane Family: Marilyn and Christopher Keane, and their children, Patrick and Matthew, 18453 Crownsgate Circle, Germantown, MD 20874-4425, 301-540-9041; marilyn_N-Keane@mcpsmd.org.

FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS OF AMERICA (THE MOCKS) Ages 10-15

Next Meeting Date: May 13, 2013

Time: 7:45 - 9:00 pm

Location: Sunroom Cafeteria, Rockville Senior Center

APRIL 8TH MEETING

BY TREVOR BABB

We began a two-part workshop on mineral identification. We first talked about the difference between rocks and minerals, as well as the difference between rock identification and mineral identification. We also talked about the different tests performed on minerals to find out what they are. We spent the rest of the workshop identifying different minerals.



May 13th Meeting

We will spend a few minutes learning about advanced techniques in mineral identification and then continue to practice testing and identifying various minerals. The books used in the mineral identification workshop were provided through the generosity of the Lillian and Steven Turner Fund.

GEM, LAPIDARY, AND MINERAL SOCIETY OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY MD, INC. : A 501-C-3

Several years ago the IRS approved our application and changed our filing status to a 501(c)(3). We are incorporated as a charitable and educational organization.

Why is this important to GLMSMC?

- We are exempt from paying taxes.
- Donations to GLMSMC are tax deductible and we can give the donors receipts.
- We can apply for grants from foundations and the government.
- We can get reduced postal rates for some mailings.
- We can legally put on our annual show.

We are in compliance with I.R.S. rules and statutes.

How does this affect the General Public and members?

- People can make tax deductible donations to GLMSMC such as:
 - Rock collections and equipment.
 - Rough and finished Lapidary material.
 - Specimens.
 - GLMSMC can be named as a beneficiary in a will or estate.
 - Basically anything of value that is donated is tax deductible.

You can write off your vehicle mileage, parking and any tolls when on GLMSMC business. The mileage rate at this time for non-profits is 14 cents per mile.

There are responsibilities and restrictions that go along with being a 501(c)(3).

- Since we are organized as a charitable and education non-profit, we need to document our charitable and educational activities.
- We need to keep thorough financial records to show that we are in compliance with IRS rules and statutes.
- We are not allowed as an organization to engage in heavy lobbying or endorsing candidates for political office. (The American Lands Access Association is a corporate group that lobbies to get favorable treatment by the

governments about mineral and fossil collecting.)

We hope this overview is helpful in understanding some of the benefits and responsibilities that go along with being incorporated as a 501 (c)(3). While the purpose of this article is educational, it is not meant to suggest that everyone can take advantage of any or all of the tax deductions that are listed. You need to contact a tax professional to see if they fit your individual circumstances. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your club's non-profit status, please contact one of the Board members.

Adapted from the Clackamette Mineral Club via the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineral Societies, March 2013.

FIELD TRIPS

May 4, 2013 – Gettysburg Quarry, PA: 7:00 -11:00 am, Quarry known for zeolite crystals, copper minerals, epidote crystals, and micromounts. The address is 1575 Baltimore Pike. The age limit for this trip is 10 years old; all minors must be carefully supervised by a parent. The quarry manager emphasized the importance of staying away from forbidden areas – high walls and drop-offs. Adults or children venturing there will get our club blacklisted from this site. Email Jonathan Harris, jgharris7@gmail.com, to RSVP.

May 11, 2013 – Medford Quarry: 10:00 am; 1111 Medford Rd, New Windsor, MD 21776-8902. Medford Quarry is known for its calcite crystals and fluorescent and phosphorescent calcites. It is space limited and this is trip includes another club, so please make sure you get my confirmation that you can attend. Please RSVP Jonathan Harris, jgharris7@gmail.com no later than April 29 and confirm that you accept the waiver and will follow our rules and the quarry rules. Please really try to be on time with the RSVPs as I am not sure whether I can add people afterwards. Children 10 and older can attend with a parent.

May 18, 2013 – Vulcan Manassas Aggregate Quarry, Manassas, VA: 3:00 pm, the Northern Virginia Micro Club has opened up this field trip to other clubs. If you are interested in attending, contact Jim Kostka, 202 207 5437 or jkostka@juno.com.

SAFETY TIP

Before you start enjoying your field trips, check out this important information about Avoiding Ticks and Lyme Disease

<http://geology.com/articles/ticks-lyme-disease/>

Explorations! Geology Walk from Great Falls to Mather Gorge on the Potomac

Saturday, May 18, 2013 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm. Trip Leader: Dr. Philip Justus. Sign up today. Space is limited!

See evidence of past and present geologic, hydrologic, atmospheric, and biological. Consider how effects of earthquakes, hurricanes, freeze and thaw cycles, floods, soil erosion and human activities affect this spectacular landscape. Hear how the location of Great Falls and similar falls and rapids along the Atlantic Coast of the U.S. influenced our country's industrial history and demographics. Or, just take a walk with a geologist, listen, maybe ask a few questions, enjoy the scenery.

Meet at fence outside Great Falls Tavern, C&O Canal National Historic Park, MD (enter on MacArthur Blvd. at Falls Rd., Potomac, MD). The trip is limited to ages 10 and up, 22 persons. Easy walk on Towpath and boardwalks; last two moderately strenuous stops on Billy Goat Trail are optional. Please bring water, snacks, camera, and dress for the weather. For your convenience the, restrooms and food concession stand are near Tavern; as a reminder, admission to the Park is \$5.00 per car. There is no other fee for the trip."

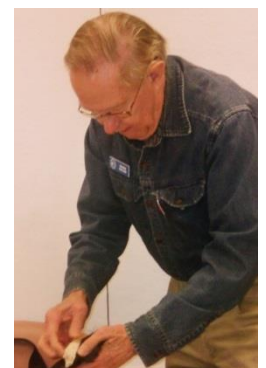
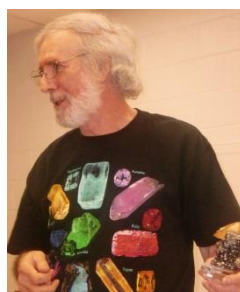
For more information, call 240-386-8111 or email explorations@rockvillesciencecenter.org.

SHOW TABLE: April 2013

Thanks to those who bring items for sharing at the meetings.

(Photo by Kristin Lolmaugh)

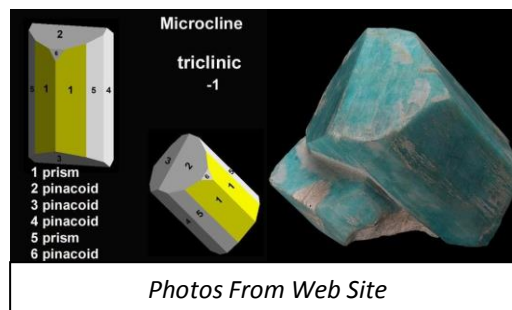
Exhibitor	Specimen (s)*	Locality
Jeff Cessna	Willemite Vein Edenite, Phlogopite	Sterling Hill, NJ Lime Crest Quarry, NJ
Gerald Elgert	Limestone and ?	Washington County, MD
Diane Leaman	Fluorite	Turkey Creek, Grant County, NM
Gary Leaman	Fluorite Carving	China
Barb Burr	Selenite	South America
Frances Becker	Quartz	Lemesurier Island, AK
Chuck Mason	Agatized Dinosaur Bone	Western US
Earl Smith	Prehnite & Diabase	Morgdorse, VA
Andy Celmer	Agate	
Doug Baum	Tricolor Calcite	Mexico
Wendell Mohr	Vesuvianite	Hebei, China
Pat Repik-Byrne	Chalcedony Geode Creedite	Chihuahua, Mexico Durango, Mexico
Bob Simonoff	Bar Pyrite – Anhydrite	Naica, Mexico
Joel Rosen	Calcite w/Galena Sphalerite & Barite	Elmwood Mine Carthage, Smith County, TN
Jonathan Harris	Wavellite, Quartz, Manganese/Iron Oxide	National Limestone, Mt. Pleasant Mills, PA
Andy Muir	Calcite FL Geode (agate) Apatite on Calcite	San Luis Posti, Mexico Chihuahua, Mexico Azerbaijan
Rod Towers	Gypsum Ghost Crystal Beryl Crystal	Minas Gerais, Brazil Mt. Apatite, ME
Boe Brosius	Quartz Crystals Zeolites	Rosemont/Burkitts, MD N Vulcan, Manassas, VA
George Durland	Sodalite Sodalite	Afghanistan Greenland
* indicates self-collected or self-made		



WEBSITES OF INTEREST

BY WENDELL C. MOHR

Crystal Shapes at [2www.facebook.com/pages/Crystal-Shapes/354115381336770](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Crystal-Shapes/354115381336770) includes unbelievable high quality photographs of mineral species plus labeled line drawings of crystal shapes. Enjoy the minerals and begin to identify them with their forms and various crystal systems. This long blog with many individual contributors began on August 29th, 2012 and is a work in progress. Thanks to Jennifer Wingard for the lead to this site.



Fossil Lab, <http://paleobiology.si.edu/fossilab/index.html> at the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History, takes one on an educational tour of the lab at the museum which is open for observation when the museum is open. It leads you to current projects including preparation of microscopic to enormous size fossils, and about making fossil replicas. Tools and adhesives are described. Blog posts from the field and lab are recorded. Where are the fossils found?, How old are they?, How long does it take to prepare them? Other questions are answered.

A volunteer uses a pin vise and carbide needle to remove matrix from fossils from the bonebed.
From Website

Volcanic Explosivity Index (VAI), <http://geology.com/stories/13/volcanic-explosivity-index/>, explains the use of the index and illustrates comparisons of many of the historically significant eruptions. Chris Newhall of the United States Geological Survey and Stephen Self of the University of Hawaii developed the Volcanic Explosivity Index (VEI) in 1982. Primarily it is a measure of the amount of material ejected whether ash, pyroclastic flow, solid or liquid lava flows. It takes into account the duration of the eruption and is useful for prehistoric eruptions. Each step of the scale is a 10X increase in material ejected. The frequency of various levels of the index are given. Lest you get complacent, Yellowstone WY, Long Valley CA, and Crater Lake OR are three of the largest and occurred right here in the U.S.!

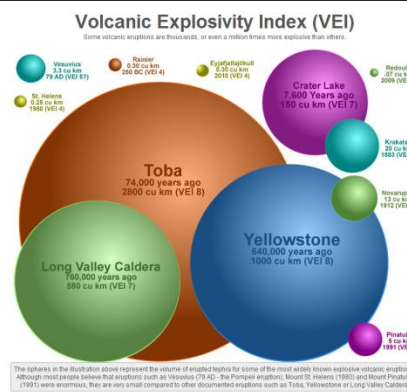


Illustration from Website

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY

MAY 3-4, 2013 – ANNUAL Atlantic Micromounters' Conference: The Congressional Schools, 3229 Sleepy Hollow Road, Falls Church, VA. Contact Jim Kostka, 202-207-5437, jkostka@juno.com or Steve Weinberger, cscrystals2@gmail.com, for information.

MAY 4, 2013 – Field Trip to Gettysburg Quarry, PA: 7:00 -11:00 am; quarry known for zeolite crystals, copper minerals, epidote crystals, and micromounts. Email Jonathan Harris, jgharris7@gmail.com, at least 1 week before the trip if you plan to attend and include Gettysburg Quarry in the subject line. To attend, you must RSVP and be a GLMSMC member in good standing. You must also agree to our club waiver and any waivers the quarry asks you to sign.

MAY 4, 2013 – Basic Precious Metal Clay: Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 9 am-5 pm; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Learn how to create unique jewelry with Precious Metal Clay by molding and shaping this versatile material. Students will complete at least 2 or more silver projects. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

MAY 4, 2013 – Basic Cabochon Cutting and Lapidary Techniques: Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 9 am-5 pm; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Students will employ basic lapidary techniques to produce at least one basic, oval cabochon. Call or email the instructor, John Cleland, at 410-353-4031 or jtcleland@verizon.net.

MAY 5, 2013 – Advanced Cabochon Techniques: Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 9 am-5 pm; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Students will work with stones that present various challenges regarding "play of light", heat sensitivity, orientation, difficult polishing, etc. Call or email the instructor, John Cleland, at 410-353-4031 or jtcleland@verizon.net.

May 5, 2013 - 2013 Spring Mineral Auction: The Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Washington, D.C, Preview Noon-1:00 pm, Auction 1:00-5:00 am; featuring unique, vintage, rare, and wonderful specimens from the Catherine J. and Bruce Paul Gaber Collection, and lapidary rough, tools, jewelry, and hobby-related books; Cash or check only; Knights of Columbus; 9707 Rosensteel Avenue, Silver Spring, MD; Contacts: Al DeMilo, 301-262-6014, abdemilo@verizon.net, Matt Charsky, 703-522-7415, matt2430@comcast.net.

MAY 10, 2013 – Lecture on the Mars Curiosity Rover: Lecturer John P. Grotzinger, Fletcher Jones Professor of Geology, Chief Mission Scientist, Mars Science Laboratory; hosted by the Philosophic Society of Washington, 8:30 pm in the John Wesley Powell Auditorium, 2170 Florida Avenue NW, Washington, DC, 20008. <http://www.meetup.com/philsoc/events/96028302/>.

MAY 11, 2013 – South Penn Rock Swap and Sale: 8 am to 3 pm; South Mountain Fairgrounds 615 Narrows Road, Biglerville, PA 17307; General Admission \$1, Children free; Sponsored by Central PA and Franklin County R & M Clubs; \$10 to set up. For more information, contact Tom Smith, tsmith1012@comcast.net.

MAY 11, 2013 – Setting a non-fireable Stone in PMC: Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 11 am-4 pm; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Learn how to create unique jewelry with Precious Metal Clay and a cabochon that cannot be fired in the clay. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

MAY 12, 2013 – Piercing (Cut Out) Work and Layering Metals: Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 9 am-5 pm; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Students will make one jewelry item. Students will work on jeweler's saw skills and finishing techniques. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

MAY 18-19, 2013 – Silversmithing: Necklace of 24K gold and sterling silver: Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 11 am-4 pm; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Students will make 1 necklace in gold or silver and possibly a matching pair of earrings. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

MAY 25, 2013 – Annual Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Show: 10 am – 4 pm, Ruhl Amory, 1035 York Rd, Baltimore, MD 21204; free Admission & plenty of free parking; top mineral dealers, original jewelry, silent auctions, door prizes, kids area.

MAY 26, 2013 – Advanced Cabochon Techniques: Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 9 am-5 pm; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Students will learn to add an inside curve and blend it seamlessly into the shape of the cabochon. Call or email the instructor, John Cleland, at 410-353-4031 or jtcleland@verizon.net.

EFMLS CONVENTION

EFMLS convention jointly hosted by the Island Rock Hounds and Suffolk Gem and Mineral Club is rapidly approaching. The EFMLS convention will be held on Long Island, New York. The first planned event is a lighthouse tour on Friday, May 31, in the afternoon, followed by a Cracker Barrel session, and the Annual Meeting at 7:30p.m. An auction and the EFMLS Annual Awards Banquet will be held on Saturday, June 1. The Editors' and Webmasters' Breakfast Buffet will be held on Sunday, June 2. For more information on the EFMLS convention visit www.amfed.org

JUNE

JUNE 1, 2013 – Basic Cabochon Cutting and Lapidary Techniques: Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 9 am-5 pm; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Students will employ basic lapidary techniques to produce at least one basic, oval cabochon. Students will be introduced to standard lapidary equipment. Call or email the instructor, John Cleland, at 410-353-4031 or jtcleland@verizon.net

JUNE 1 & 15, 2013 – Basic Faceting: Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 9 am-5 pm; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Description: Each student will receive instruction on cutting a round from synthetic garnet, to include preforming, dopping, cutting, and polishing. In the first class we will pre-form the stone, cut the pavilion, and transfer it to prepare it for the cutting of the crown. In the second session we will cut the crown. Email the instructor, Eric, at eric@upcyclist.com.

JUNE 2ND, 2013 – Silversmithing: Patuxent Lapidary Guild 1 pm to 6 pm; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Students will make 1 bracelet with a bezel-set stone. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

JUNE 8TH 2013 – Spinner Ring in PMC3: Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 9 am-5 pm; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Students will learn how to create a spinner or "worry" ring with Precious Metal Clay. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

JUNE 22, 2013 – Create Your Own Stamp: Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 9 am-5 pm; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Students will design and carve from steel blanks their own designs. Students will create 1 stamp, the design can be simple or complex. Students will also learn to temper the stamp so it can be used on any metal surface. Steel stamps may also be used on PMC projects. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

JUNE 23, 2013 – Copper/Bronze/Nickel Metal Beads: Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 9 am-5 pm; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Students will make a variety of metal beads. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

JUNE 29-30 2013 – Exploring Easy Patinas on Base Metal: Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 1 – 5 pm both days; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Students will explore a variety of easy-to-make patinas from household items and some torch patinas. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

JUNE 9, 2013 – Post and Dangle Earrings: Patuxent Lapidary Guild; 1 – 6 pm; 169 Defense Highway (lower level) Annapolis, MD. Students will make at least 1 pair of post earrings and one pair dangle earrings in sterling silver and practice a variety of styles. Call or email the instructor, Donna Madej at 410-215-1774 or littlewings@mdonline.net.

If you are planning a trip and want to know what clubs you might be able to visit, it would be worthwhile to visit the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies website. Check out their newsletter archives at <http://www.amfed.org/news/default.htm>.



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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 email address – kristinlolmaugh@gmail.com

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Award Winning Bulletin
EFMLS, AFMS



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