



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 MEETINGS

Next Meeting: Monday December 8, 2014 7:30 PM

This meeting is our holiday party. There will be no speaker. Bring you favorite dishes, desserts, snacks or drinks to share with other members and friends.. There will be no show table; but you may bring specimens to show off or trade or sell (note we will not exhibit space for sellers).

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

There is no Board of Directors meeting scheduled for December.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Chris Luzier

Well, I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday and ate their fill at the table, and turkey sandwiches afterward. Rapidly approaching is our December 8th meeting, with our annual Christmas party! Please bring your favorite dishes, desserts, snacks or drinks to share with other members and friends. Pure holiday potluck style, is the name of the game for this wonderful holiday meeting. Hope to see you all there.

Our annual show is also coming up at the end of March, on the weekend of the 21st and 22nd. As always, we need your volunteer support for the show to be a strong success as in years’ past. We will have the sign-up sheets for the various tasks needed at the upcoming Christmas party meeting. Please take the time to put the show weekend on your calendar and sign up for multiple spots through the weekend. This is the one weekend where YOUR mineral society needs your support the most. If you are not sure about what each task entails, please just ask any of the board members and show chairs at the meeting. This is also an excellent opportunity for your children to volunteer for SSL hours for school, and I want to extend a special invitation to all FRA parents and children this year to help with the show. We always love to have Scout groups come in and volunteer as they did with Conrad Smith’s successful Eagle Scout project at last years’ show. If you have an interested volunteer group, please just let us know and we would sincerely love the help! Many hands make light work---

Chris Luzier-President

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GLMSMC REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

November 10, 2014

Andy Muir

The November 10, 2014, GLMSMC meeting was called to order by President Chris Luzier at 7:45 pm, with approximately 62 people attending. It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2014 regular meeting and October 27, 2014 board of director's meeting.

Society Business items: President Luzier announced that the election of new board members for 2015 must be accomplished at the November club meeting, per the by-laws, and therefore the "election" held at the October meeting was not official. He presented the following slate of nominees: President (Chris Luzier), Vice-president (Dave Tiktinsky), Treasurer (Holly McNeil), & Secretary (Dave Fryauff), and there were no other nominees for office. It was M/S/P to elect these nominees as the 2015 club officers. President Luzier also proposed a change to the club by-laws that applicants for club membership need not attend a meeting before applying; this change was M/S/P.

EFMLS Committee report: EFMLS Liaison Wendell Mohr announced upcoming events & dates of interest to GLMSMC members including the announcement by a team of scientists that they have discovered a new type of oviraptorosaur (dinosaur) that was about 500 pounds and 11 feet long and has been nicknamed the "Chicken from Hell."

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Holly McNeil announced that club income for October was from membership dues and \$49 from the silent auction at the club meeting. Expenses for the month were the meeting space and post office box rental. The board voted to make some donations this year since our financial results were better than our budgeted expenses, as listed in the October board minutes. The board has also approved a balanced 2015 budget subject to finalizing the line item for meeting door prizes.

Presentation: Dr. Fred Davis, Researcher in the Division of Petrology & Volcanology at the Smithsonian Institution described his work on peridotite xenoliths which provide a window into the earth's mantle. He explained the significance of the relative abundance of olivine, orthopyroxene, and clinopyroxene minerals in various rock samples and how they give indications of where the rock was formed within the earth. Dr. Davis described how scientists can learn about the layers of rock within the earth's crust, mantle, and core based on the compression and/or refraction of seismic that pass through the earth.

Dr. Davis also illustrated how mineralogists can study the behavior of rocks such as peridotite and basalt at extremely high pressures (similar to those exerting in the lower crust and mantle) using equipment such the piston cylinder apparatus, the multi-anvil apparatus, and the diamond anvil cell. He explained that first-row transition elements (FRTE, such as Sc, Ti, V, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn) are usually included in mantle rocks such as peridotites and eclogite in trace quantities and the relative composition of iron to manganese and scandium to gallium can help researchers understand rock forming processes.

New Members: It was M/S/A to approve new member Matt Acosta from Ijamsville and returning member Robert Winfield from Rockville. The 2014-2015 roster will be finalized on December 16, 2014. Please make sure your dues are up-to-date to be included in all club activities.

Adjournment: It was M/S/A to adjourn at 9:55 pm.

GLMSMC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Nov 17, 2014

Dave Fryauff

Board Members present: Doug Baum, Andy Celmer, Dave Fryauff, Jonathan Harris, Chris Luzier, Wendell Mohr, Andy Muir, Pat Repik-Byrne, and Joel Rosen. Not present: Holly McNeil, Dave Tiktinsky & Rod Towers. President Chris Luzier called the meeting to order at 7:38 pm.

Mindat donation: Payment will be made by ATM card or check.

Turquoise leftovers from summer auction: Dr. Jeff Post (Smithsonian Institution) was interested in some of the specimens for locations not represented in his collection. Chris Luzier needs to contact him & hear his offer if he is still interested. An offer of \$600-\$900 would be reasonable.

Christmas Party/December Meeting: Scheduled for Dec. 8, 2014. Pot luck dishes by members. Pat Repik-Byrne will bring spoons, forks, plates; Wendell Mohr will bring the coffee pot; Andy Muir will bring the coffee. Chris Luzier will contact Mark Dahlman about punch. Doug Baum has punch bowl. Dave Fryauff will bring 3 ea. 2 liter sodas for the punch. Need another member to bring 3 more 2 liter sodas.

No Board of Directors Meeting in December.

Door & Show Table Prizes: To replenish his supply of door and show table prizes Joel Rosen needs to purchase 25 mineral/fossil/lapidary items. If approved by the treasurer Joel could make these purchases at the upcoming Northern Virginia Mineral Society Show on 22-23 November, 2014.

2015 Annual Show business:

--Pat Repik-Byrne will bring signup sheets at our Dec. 8th Christmas Party/Meeting for members to volunteer time at the March show.

--"Touch Table" has been a very important draw/activity for children at the annual meeting but unless we have members step up to volunteer their time for this activity it will be cut from the show. Need to have FRA parents more involved. Potential loss of the "Touch Table" must be discussed in the newsletter.

--SSL hours can be earned by high school students that volunteer time at the show.

--Octahedron Minerals of Baltimore has been a routine yearly vendor of mineral specimens at the annual show but it has been bought out and the company liquidated. Need to find another reputable mineral vendor to fill their table spaces at the show.

--Make sure to take & distribute GLMS-MC annual show fliers at the 22-23 NOVA show. Andy Muir will provide Wendell Mohr a list of dealers at the NOVA show that did not get fliers at the Gem Cutter's Guild Show. Fliers will also be provided for the entry area at the show.

--Good news: The Hanna Brothers will precut all 350 cabs that we need for the March show for \$350.

--Need to contact Jim Kostka/Conrad Smith to determine if they plan to repeat last year's Boy Scout exhibit-project at the March 2015 show. This was very successful. Need to determine if funding will be needed again, the amount needed, and a description of the items to be purchased.

EFMLS: EFMLS Liaison Wendell Mohr stated that he had received no response from members in support of his web site articles in the Rockhouser. He will ask at the December meeting if people want the articles continued

otherwise they will be discontinued. BOD members were quick to thank him for his efforts, to verify that they had indeed made some use of the information he provided, and, strongly encouraged him to continue his inputs to the Rockhounder.

Membership Chair: Doug Baum reported 2015 memberships running ahead of last year. However the membership list still shows many not paid yet despite multiple contacts.

Sundry: There was discussion of the need for voting new members into the club when in fact membership actually starts when the members' dues are received. There was question regarding the insurance coverage that came as a result of membership and how this applied to accidents/damage that was incurred during "official" field trips. Wendell Mohr will provide copies of the insurance to BOD members.

It was M/S/A to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 PM.

David Fryauff, Secretary

FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS OF AMERICA (THE MOCKS)

Ages 10-15

Mark Dahlman (photos by Wendell Mohr)

Next Meeting Date: December 8, 2014 **Meeting Time:** 7:45-9:00pm

Meeting Location: Sunroom Cafeteria at the Rockville Senior Center

November 10th Meeting:

We started doing activities for the Fossils badge at the November meeting. FRA members made molds and casts of shells to simulate fossil formation, and we learned a little about plaster of paris the hard way (get it, the hard way). We talked about where fossils can be found in Maryland, and why some areas have lots of fossils and other areas of the state don't. The FRA members made a 46 foot long timeline stretching back 550 million years, noting the eras, periods, and some of the significant events in the fossil record. In addition to other things, we used the timeline to map



out some of the firsts (first fish, plants, insects, trees, birds, etc) to get a sense of how long ago that was. We ended the meeting by drawing for fossil door prizes generously donated to the FRA.



Mark Dahlman with FRA cast photo by Wendell Mohr

December 8th Meeting:

We will be joining the general GLMSMC meeting to enjoy the holiday party. Don't forget to bring your favorite finger foods – see you there!

For more information on the Future Rockhounds of America program, please contact Mark Dahlman at <fra_advisor@glmsmc.com> or 301-428-0455.

FIELD TRIPS

by Jonathan Harris

Saturday Jan 31, 2015, 9am. James Madison University Department of Geology and Environmental Science and Mineral Museum, hosted by Professor Lance Kearns.

The last few trips were so successful we have had requests for another trip!

Professor Kearns is a valued link between hobbyist and professional geologists. How have many of our seasoned collectors identified the rich variety of local minerals? --- Lance Kearns. For those who like machines more than experts, Professor Kearns has indicated that the X-ray diffraction machine and Ramen Spectrometer will be available. There is some chance that the LEDES/SEM lab (Low energy electron diffraction and Scanning Electron Microscope) will be open. And of course the **JMU** mineral museum.

Please signup by responding to this email or include "James Madison University" in the subject line. Make tracking signups easier --- please change the subject line when sending me emails on other topics! Prior signup by January 24, 2011 is required to give Professor Kearns a correct headcount. Please signup earlier if possible

Directions below:

Travel Time---about 2 hours and 30 minutes from Rockville, MD. Note GPS directions to James Madison may take you a mile or two away from the destination. Memorial Hall is at 395 South High Street, between Grace Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Way (formerly Cantrell Avenue).

Go West on I-66 to I-81 South.

Get off I-81 at Exit 245.

Turn RIGHT onto Port Republic Road

Proceed to S. Main St. (Rt. 11) and turn right at the light.

Proceed northward on S. Main St. to the 3rd traffic light - turn left onto Cantrell Ave (or Martin Luther King Jr. Way).

Proceed over the bridge to traffic light on South High St. (Rt. 42). Memorial Hall (the old Harrisonburg High School) is directly in front of you.

Go straight into the parking lot. The Mineral Museum is around the building to the left (south side) along Grace Street. Entrance "E" to the building.

After entering the building at Entrance "E", make an immediate right. The museum is at the end of the hall.

NOVEMBER FIELDTRIPS

Jonathan Harris

National Limestone, November 1. Our expedition, which included members of the Northern Virginia, Southern Maryland, and GLMSMC visited National Limestone's Mt. Pleasant Mills plant. Along with his brief sermon, Eric described how a prior group had left a hole at a promising spot for the gemmy wavellite which people pursue. The tough part was that much of the rock had slid back into the hole.

Most of our crew spent the time digging in two holes. The diggings proved promising with many nice pieces of gemmy wavellite and some small layers of what appears to be turquoise, although we did not reach the large gemmy slabs like the one Eric has in his office; likely these will require more digging to obtain more.

Some rockhounds did venture into the quarry to collect some calcite crystals and some strontianite coatings.



National Limestone Wavellite site. G. Elgert foreground.

National Limestone Quarry Wavellite pit. photo by G. Elgert



Keeper or Leaver? Only a good cleaning will tell. photo J. Harris



These are always leavers J. Harris



Studying the wavellite. Photo J. Harris

Bedrock Quarry, Flintstone, MD November 11, 2014.

Veteran's day was a good time to visit the Bedrock Quarry, as they are not open on weekends. Vice President, Robert Smith gave us a brief introduction to the company, Allegany Aggregates. The small firm mines limestone from a number of quarries in the area. The limestone is primarily from the late Silurian Tonoloway formation, which often includes laminated limestone with layers of silt.

Because the limestone has a high concentration of calcium carbonate and fewer impurities than other limestones, its chief usage is in coal fired power plants, where the limestone is mixed with the coal so that sulfates produced in the combustion can combine with the calcium instead of going out the smokestack to form acid rain and nasty air pollution. He also showed us some of the polished pieces of limestone that some collectors have made. Particularly striking was the contrast of the white calcite veins against the darker limestone.

Bob escorted us to a section of the quarry that was away from the activity and where there were many piles of limestone. There collectors found calcite crystals, fluorite, and dolomite, as well as interest rock samples, such as the laminated limestone that Gerald plans to donate to the Northern Virginia Community College.



Bedrock Quarry. Flintstone, MD D. Fryauff



Laminate limestone collected and photographed by Gerald Elgert. To be donated to Northern Virginia Community College



Bedrock quarry folded. Photo J. Harris



Bedrock collecting. Photo by D. Fryauff

NOVEMBER MEETING PHOTOS

Wendell Mohr



Top left: peridotite sample, typical of rocks originating from the upper mantle, shown by speaker, Fred Davis, Top right: Mini-miners, Bottom left, speaker Fred Davis, Bottom right, looking at specimens & ready with the UV lamp.

NOVEMBER 2014 SHOW TABLE

Dave Fryauff with Photos by Wendell Mohr

Date: November 10, 2014

Member's Name	Specimen Descriptions	Locality
Jeff Cessna	Calcite, Willemite	Alexander Mine, Pibram-Vranice, Czech Republic
" "	Tugtupite, Natrolite	Taseq Slope, Greenland
" "	Tumbled Hardystonite, Willemite, Calcite	Franklin, NJ
Gary Leaman	Calcite crystals	Union Bridge, MD
Diane Leaman	Hourglass Selenite	Oklahoma
Frances Becker	Quartz & Mica spheres	Maine & Hunting Hill Quarry, Rockville, MD
Barbara Burr	Septarian Nodule	Maybe Utah?
Gerald Elgert	Belemnitella americana = "Devil's Needle"*	Delaware
Daniel Glenn	Multiple mixed mineral spheres	Sterling Hill, Ogdensburg, NJ
Holly McNeil	Tremolite serpentine*	Lizard Peninsula, Cornwall, England
Wendell Mohr	Woolly Mammoth Coin	Canada Mint
Joel Rosen	Sphalerite/Dolomite/Galena	Elmwood Mine, Smith Co., TN
Jonathan Harris	Tremolite (FL)	Canaan, CT
Marcia Baum	Hematite	purchased at the GLMS-MC show
Chuck Mason	Slatter Agate*	Slatter, Wyoming
Priscilla Quackenbush	Sulfur	Goodwill Thrift Shop
Steven Calamuci	Beryl*	Thomaston, GA
Andy Muir	???	???

*Asterisk denotes self-collected or self-made



Holly McNeil's Tremolite Serpentine,
Lizard Peninsula, Cornwall England



Joel Rosen's Sphalerite, Dolomite,
and Galena Elmwood Mine TN



Wendell Mohr's Woolly
Mammoth Canadian Coin

SHOW 'N'



Daniel Glenn's Sterling
Hill NJ Spheres



Diane Leaman's Selenite
Oklahoma Salt Plains

TELL

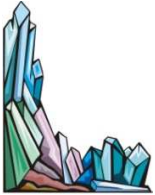
Barbara Burr's Septarian
Nodules Utah



Photo and arrangement by Wendell Mohr
The Rockhounder

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

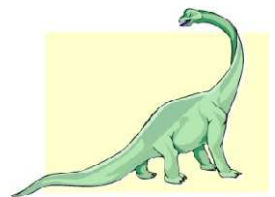
Wendell Mohr



Mineral Properties, Uses and Descriptions, is a far-ranging site covering too many topics to list all here. Some are: Fee mining, Fluorescent minerals, Identification, Tucson and Denver G&M shows, and Triboluminescence. You will get a comprehensive education if you peruse all topics. A few of the topics have been featured individually in this column previously.

<geology.com/minerals/>

Newly Discovered Dinosaur, Dreadnoughtus, Takes Title of Largest Terrestrial Animal, by Washington Post writer Meeri Kim, describes the fossil. See the 4'16" video. Weight of this enormous animal is estimated at 65 tons (T-Rex was 8 tons.) The find is a nearly complete fossil with neck vertebra of over 3 feet across and was found in the Patagonian Hills of Argentina. Lead researcher Kenneth Lacovara, first discovered the remains in a 2005 dig and over 70% of the bones were found.



<<http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/speaking-of-science/wp/2014/09/04/this-is-the-kind-of-dinosaur-you-find-in-hollywood/>>



Building DC: Union Station's Marble Floors, is posted by Jessica Ball on the American Geophysical Union blog. In this brief post you will read about a black and red marble puzzle. Click on the link to "The Vermont Marble Trail" with a nice guide if you plan to vacation there sometime in the future. Fall leaf colors are done there for this year.

<<http://blogs.agu.org/magmacumlaude/2014/06/13/building-dc-union-station-just-the-floors/>>



EVENTS OF INTEREST

- **Now through December 31st**, Hillwood Estate, Museum, and Gardens is featuring a special exhibition. See exquisite jewelry and luxury objects collected by and specially designed for Marjorie Merriweather Post in the display titled Cartier - Marjorie Merriweather Post's Dazzling Gems. Tuesday to Saturday 10 am to 5 pm and select Sundays. Adults \$15 suggested donation. 4155 Linnean Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20008. Free parking. Information [202 686 5807](http://202.686.5807) or <HillwoodMuseum.org>
- **Saturday December 13**, 2014 10 am - 4:30 pm. Commercial dealer show, Holiday Inn Hotel, 9615 Deereco Road, Timonium MD (I-83, Exit 17, Padonia Road.) Dealers: Mike's Minerals, Highland Rock and Fossil, The Bead Warehouse and Alan's Quality Minerals.
- **Jan. 11, 2015**, "Rocks on the Mall", an Audubon Naturalist program lead by Joe Marx, 1 - 4 pm. Walk a 2 mile loop to see type, manner of formation, and place of origin of rock in facades, fountains and walls. Audubon members \$24 ,nonmember \$34. Information: <www.ANShome.org/adultnatureprograms> and click on "Register Online" or call Pam at [301 652 9188 X16](http://301.652.9188.X16).
- **March 7 - 8, 2015**, Delaware Mineralogical Society 52nd Gem, Mineral, & Fossil Show, Delaware Technical & Community College, 400 Churchmans Road (Rt. 58), Newark, (Stanton) DE at exit 4B, I-95. 10 am - 6 pm March 7, 11 am - 5 pm March 8. Adults \$6.00, Seniors \$5.00, Juniors (age 12-16) \$4.00. Free to children and all scouts in uniform. Info.: <www.delminsociety.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>.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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 Vice President – Dave Tiktinsky, 9209 Laurel Oak Drive, Bethesda MD 20817-1937, 301-365-2812
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 Field Trip Chairman – Jonathan Harris, 11932 Goya Drive, Potomac, MD 20854-3313, 301-545- 0808
 Membership Chairman – Doug Baum, 11205 Golden Meadow Ct., Germantown, MD 20876-1740, 301-515-4641
 Show Co-Chairperson – Pat Repik-Byrne, 9 Starlight Court, Potomac, MD 20854-2658, 301-279-5962
 Show Co-Chairperson – Andy Muir, 17949 Hazelcrest Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20877-3761, 301-990-1370
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 Bulletin Editor– Needed
 Life Members: Larry Harrison, Wendell Mohr, and Juan Proaño
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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 – BulletinEditor@glmsmc.com

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 EFMLS, AFMS



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 FIRST CLASS MAIL

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