



# The Rockhounder

April 2016

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."

**NOTE:** Please send any Rockhounder submissions for the May issue to Editor Olivia Luzier at [editor@glmsmc.com](mailto:editor@glmsmc.com) by **Sunday, April 24, 2016.**

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## Regular Meeting Announcements:

Instead of having a speaker for the April 11th Regular Meeting, we will have a club members' auction. Please bring any items you would like to be auctioned off at the meeting. You will receive 100% of the proceeds from your auction items.

Make sure you fill out your Auction Control Forms and Auction Bid Slips ahead of time. These can be found in the email sent to you on Monday, April 4, 2016, by Chris Luzier.

Gary Leaman, Vice President

### Next Regular Meeting:

**Date:** Monday, April 11, 2016

**Time:** 7:30 PM

#### Place:

Rockville Senior Center

1150 Carnation Drive

Rockville, MD

### Next Board of Directors Meeting:

The Board of Directors will meet **7:30 PM on Monday, April 18, 2016** at the home of Holly McNeil. Board members are expected to be there. Any member is welcome to attend, but please let Holly know if you plan to attend.

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## President's Message

Jonathan G. Harris

Thanks to the leadership of Holly McNeil and Dave Tiktinsky, we have had another great show. This would not be possible without the contribution of many members, who spent hours of their time staffing, setting up, and taking down the show, as Holly details in her report.

We had 2,100 visitors at the Show; about 4% more than last year and the second highest attendance since 2011!

Still looking for specimens? Do you have more keepers than cabinet space? April's meeting will be a member and club auction. Members can bring specimens to auction off and bid on specimens from other members and some material donated or being auctioned by the club. Chris Luzier will provide the bid slips and the auction rules. See Chris' section.

Springtime also kicks off hunting season—for rocks and minerals. Thanks to Sam Linton and Dave Fryauff, we have a number of fieldtrips scheduled. We have a chance to help find dinosaur bones for research in Muirkirk in early April and a visit to the Superdig at one of the premier world sites for glo-rocks later, as well as some quarry trips to Stafford, Texas, and Medford. Our Field Trip section has a list of the variety of planned trips.

Thanks to Doug Baum, we now have a Facebook group. A link to it is on our website. You can see pictures from the Show and other club activities there.

We still need one or more volunteers to help in developing, updating, and maintaining our website. If you remake our website, it can be entered in the next Eastern Federation website competition. Please contact me if you are interested.

## GLMSMC Regular Meeting Minutes for March 14, 2016

Jeff Cessna

The March 14, 2016 meeting was called to order by President Jonathan Harris at approximately 7:45 pm. There were approximately 68 people (62 adults, 10 juniors) in attendance. It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2016 Regular Meeting, with corrections. It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2016 BOD Meeting.

**FRA:** With the assistance of Dr. Jeffrey Post, Mark Dahlman presented another Special Effects badge. Dr. Post then bestowed the title of Rockhound on Cooper Batchelder. The badge and certificate were accompanied by a trilobite.

**Show:** Holly McNeil thanked those who had signed up to volunteer at the Show, filling many of the positions. Help was still needed at admissions. Joel Rosen noted that he and Holly will have keys and that all new cases will use locks. Dave Tiktinsky stated all dealers from last year have returned.

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## GLMSMC Regular Meeting Minutes for March 14, 2016

*Continued from page 2*

We continue to have interest from new dealers. Joel also stated the trailers are intact and dry after the winter.

Chris Luzier brought and distributed the shirts printed in remembrance of Andy Muir. Members were encouraged to wear them to the Show.

**Membership:** Doug Baum announced a club Facebook page and asked members to visit it.

**Field Trips:** Dave Fryauff discussed upcoming planned and possible trips (see Field Trip News, starting on page 19). He is investigating joint trips with other local clubs.

**Program:** Vice President Gary Leaman introduced the speaker for the evening, Dr. Jeffrey Post. Dr. Post returned for his popular yearly discussion of events at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History. Big news was the departure of Dr. Cara Santelli, who has also spoken to our club and is leaving for an opportunity at University of Minnesota. On a positive note, the museum is installing a new field emission gun electron microprobe, allowing rapid non-destructive mineralogy at a very high spatial resolution. We then heard about a follow-up trip to last year's Montana sapphire collecting, including a new mine at a source rather than an alluvial deposit. A report from the Denver Mineral Show and the Tucson Show included photos of many new acquisitions to fill out the museum collection or of individually important specimens. An important North Carolina beryl (var. emerald) specimen was first mistaken for a Columbian specimen, but it came from the Crabtree Mine in 1979. A delicate barite donated by Wendell and Jo Ann Mohr was hand carried back by Dr. Mike Wise. Knowing our club, the final slides were a spectacular fluorescent tour through the gem and mineral collections of the Smithsonian. Dr. Post graciously answered many questions from the audience. He left us with well wishes for the success of our Show and thanked us for our support. We are especially grateful to Dr. Post, given that he had an early flight the morning following his talk. Thank you, Dr. Post.

**Treasurer:** Tom Dushel reported that he had completed the audit of the previous year record, finding no problems.

**President:** Jonathan Harris asked for volunteers to assist with the website.

The Show Table and door prizes were administered by Joel Rosen.

**Adjournment:** It was M/S/P to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 PM.

Jeff Cessna, Secretary.



## GLMSMC Board Meeting Minutes

There was no Board Meeting for the month of March.

### Future Rockhounds of America (The MOCKS) Ages 10-15

Mark Dahlman

**Next Meeting Date:** April 11, 2016

**Meeting Time:** 7:45-9:00pm

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

#### **March 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting:**

At our March meeting Dr. Post, curator of the National Gem and Mineral Collection at the Smithsonian, awarded Cooper Batchelder his Rockhound Award—congratulations again to Cooper. Thanks again to Jennifer Weiss who led the effort to finish the group exhibit for our club show. Congratulations to all of our FRA members who developed an exhibit for the Show. The displays were all well done. It was great to see the wide range of interesting topics and presentations that our FRA members developed. Well done MOCKS! Thanks also to all of our FRA members and their families who worked at the show. It made a huge difference. It's the best Show around because of our volunteers.

#### **April 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting:**

At the April meeting we will sign off on the Showmanship badge for all who participated in the group exhibit or put in their own display. We will also start doing some of the activities to earn the Rocks and Minerals badge. This badge includes learning about the steps to take to identify a mineral—a very useful skill.

Bring a friend if you'd like—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.

Check out page 13 to see pictures of Cooper Batchelder receiving his Rockhound Award!



Show Table for March 14, 2016

| NAME            | SPECIMEN                           | LOCALITY           |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Jeff Cessna     | Esperite                           | Franklin, NJ       |
| “ “             | Willemite/ Calcite Cabochon        | Sterling Hill Mine |
| Frances Becker  | Soapstone Elephant                 | Cambodia           |
| Gary Leaman     | Agatized Petrified Wood            | Eden Valley, WY    |
| Diane Leaman    | Blue Opal                          | Peru               |
| Reed Owens      | Geode                              | Unknown            |
| Rob Creel       | Petrified Wood                     | Western US         |
| “ “             | Island Agate                       | Northeastern US    |
| Barb Burr       | Obsidian                           | Oregon             |
| Dave Tiktinsky  | Tourmaline                         | Maine              |
| Joel Rosen      | Petrified Wood                     | Madagascar         |
| Wendell Mohr    | Quetzalcoatlus Coin                | Canada Mint        |
| Steve Calamuci  | Malachite Pseudomorph              | Milpillas, MX      |
| Jonathan Harris | Kunzite                            | Afghanistan        |
| “ “             | Diaspore Color Change              | Turkey             |
| Chuck Hyland    | Quartz over Chrysocolla            | Reward Mine, CA    |
| Ken Reynolds    | Hardystonite, Calcite, Willemite   | Buckwheat Dump     |
| Chuck Mason     | Montana Agate Slab-Self Collected  | Montana            |
| George Durland  | Calcite & Scheelite                | Nandan, China      |
| Dave Fryauff    | Chondrodite/Calcite-Self Collected | Limecrest. NJ      |
| Conrad Smith    | Smithsonite/Azurite                | Kelly Mine, NM     |

Door Prizes for March 14, 2016

**Show Table Door Prize:** Galena & Quartz  
 Huaron- Paso Dept., Peru  
 Chuck Hyland

**General Door Prize:** Sphalerite—Sigo XX Mine  
 Naica, Chihuahua- Mexico  
 Wendell Mohr



## Show Volunteer Thank You

Holly McNeil

### *The Show's over... Thanks go to all the volunteers, including:*

- **Matt Acosta & Courtney Sunderland** for working their first show at the admissions table.
- The multitalented **Barb Burr** – for working multiple shifts at admissions and hospitality.
- **Daniel Glenn** and **Jeanne App** for covering the admissions table under very chilly circumstances.
- **Leila** and (non rock hound husband) **Larry Campbell** were a great help at the shop.
- All the other long suffering spouses and significant others who gave up some of their weekend to help out including **Anne Calamuci, Marcia Baum, Susan Harris, Heather Fischer** and **Patricia Cronin**.
- **Pat Jayne** for her stalwart presence at the hospitality table and making badges for the 2017 show.
- **Tom Parnell** for work at the shop, hospitality, tear down and for his conscientiousness checking in.
- **Ken Reynolds** for taking some time out from shopping to work at the mini-mine under the watchful eye of . . . hardworking Junior Coordinator, **Jennifer Weiss**. She must not have been too tough because it looked like . . .
- **Dave Fryauff** and **Lyle Peterson** were also enjoying themselves working at the mini-mine.
- The other Mighty Mocks and their parents, including **Dee Weiss, Katie Rapp, Peter and Scott Korenko, Patrick Keane, Erik and Jill Staggs, Kaylee Bloom, Valya and Colin Savage,** and **Allison Higgs** who worked at the junior section.
- We also had some FRA alumni working hard – It was great to see **Jonathan Baum, Kris Vaitkus,** and **the Babb family (Roshni, Maddie & Trevor)**. Thanks for staying to clean up, Jonathan!
- **Owen Powers** and **Frances Becker** each for covering multiple shifts and helping to tear down.
- Shop volunteers **Karen and Mira Lottes, Steve Calamuci** (who also stayed to help clean up on Sunday), **Chris Barr** and others.
- **Nancy Shinowara** and **John Beatty** were responsible for the good-looking table draping (as opposed to the tables I draped) and many other tasks on Friday during set up. Nancy also worked the shop and stayed to pack up.



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## Show Volunteer Thank You

Holly McNeil

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- **Reed Owens** was a tremendous help at set up on Friday and also worked at the shop.
- **Linda** and **Conrad Smith** for their help in setting up and for running the entire YIESA demonstration to help educate youth. Linda even stayed for tear down as Conrad headed back to college.
- Our shop chief **Andy Celmer** ran a tight operation and was there from beginning to end.
- **Chuck Mason** – the self proclaimed ‘piker’ at the admissions table, was also seen hard at work at the shop, at tear down, and tabulating the attendance numbers so we could announce our early returns.
- **Wendell Mohr**, who, along with **JoAnn**, covered the hospitality table both days. Wendell also provided valuable advice and information in preparing for the show.
- **George** and **Eric Durland** manned the fluorescent tent for us on both days.
- Many thanks to **Jeff** and **William Nagy**, **David Fryauff** and **Cynthia Hunter Shupe**, our member demonstrators.

### *The Show's Over, but let's not forget.....*

- **Ben Dodge** – who, after being thrown into the deep end at his first show last year by working the Saturday 10-12 shift at admissions, actually came back again for a repeat performance. His help was also appreciated at the shop, and at tear down.
- **Bob Irby** and **Elmer Lantz** provided invaluable help at set up, tear down, and in the shop, and in his spare time Elmer also sealed the interior of the trailer.
- **Diane Leaman** officially opened the show by working the fast-paced Saturday admissions shift, stayed all weekend, and closed the show by sweeping up the last piece of dust when everything was packed away.
- **Gary Leaman** also showed up and hung around (just kidding, Gary!). Gary's help was critical during set up; he worked wherever needed during the weekend and took lots of photos to help us put together instructions for some of the set up tasks.
- Thanks to **Doug Baum**, who, despite the elimination of the ‘floater’ position two years ago, floated anyway along with handling the show publicity, working set up and through tear down
- **Jonathan Harris** helped out wherever needed, took care of the signs, set up and tear down.
- **Chris Luzier** handled the money, admissions, set up, posted the signs and helped tear down.
- **Jeff Cessna**, after staying up until the small hours working on exhibits, toiled from 9am to

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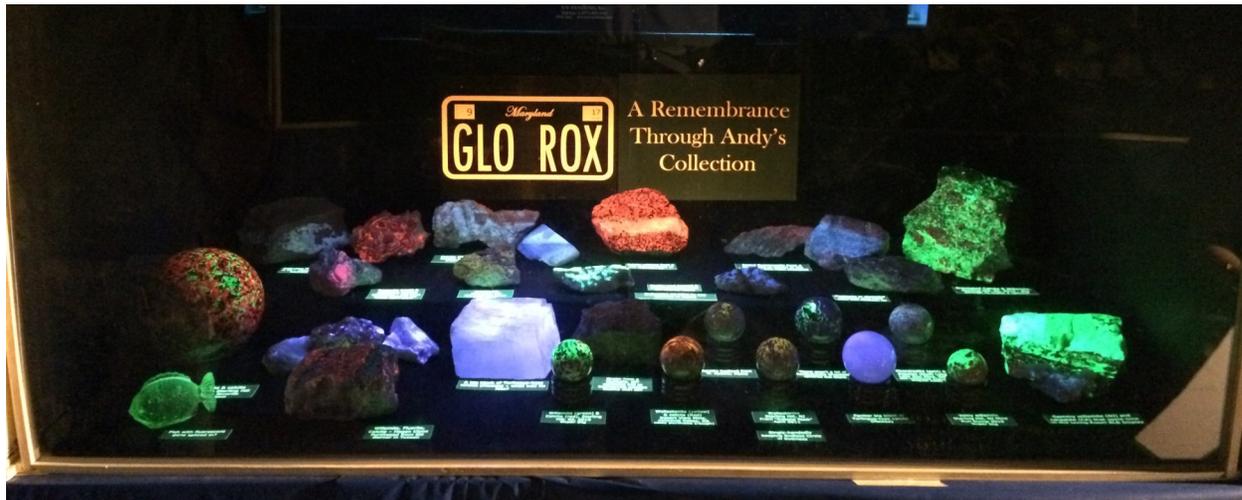


## Show Volunteer Thank You

Holly McNeil

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- until after 9pm on Friday, helped at the shop and stayed to the end of clean up on Sunday.
- Of course, without **Joel Rosen** handling the trailers, equipment and electricity, instead of a show we would have had a dark building with a bunch of empty tables. Joel also pitched in up front – nothing got past him – he refused to accept someone’s medical report they claimed was a \$1 off coupon.
  - **Pat Repik-Byrne**, for all her help with the transition and all the work done in years past.
  - **Dave Tiktinsky**, our upstairs chairman, ensured all the tables were set up and worked all weekend so the upstairs would run smoothly, not to mention all the preparation in advance of the show.
  - And then there was one.... After working all day at the kids section, **Mark Dahlman** stayed to the bitter end, until the last dealer finally packed up after 10pm on Sunday.
  - And last but not least and never forgotten.....Thanks Andy.



This is just a small sample of the many things our members did to help make the Show a success; everyone did much more than what is listed here. I hope I did not miss anyone, but If I have, I apologize profusely.

Holly

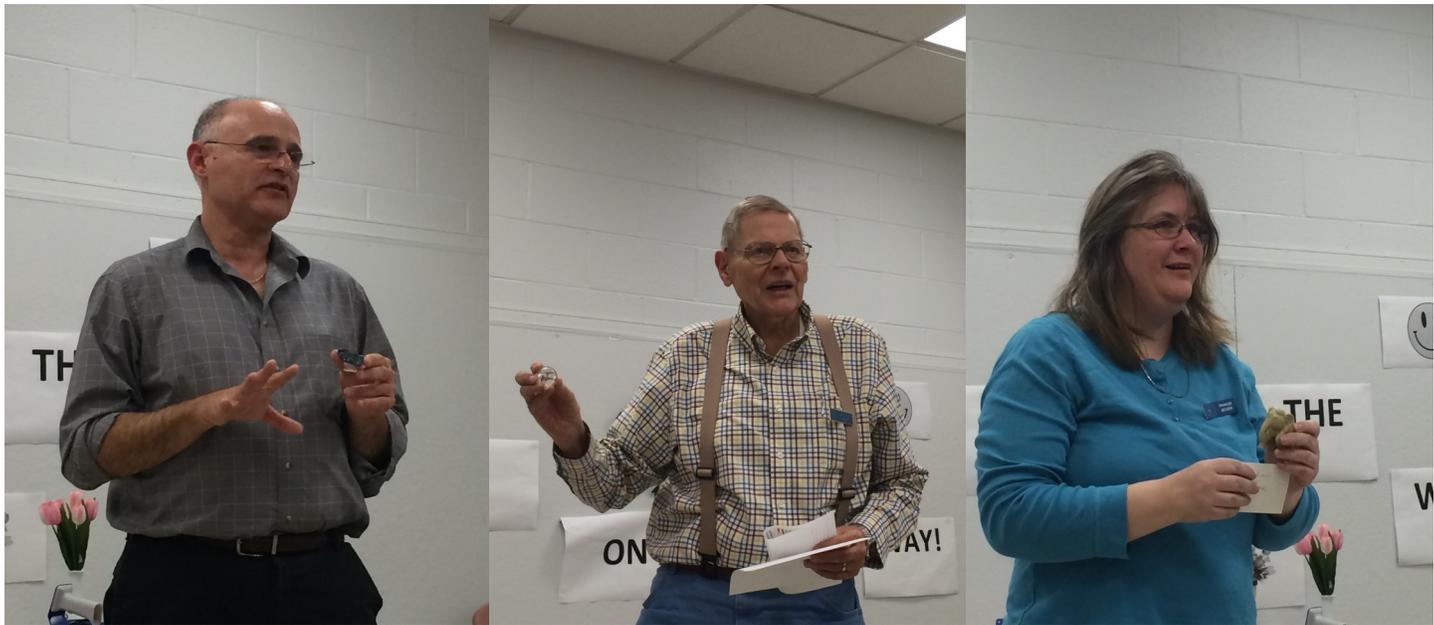


**Pictures from the March 14 Regular Meeting! Enjoy, compliments of Holly McNeil!**





More pictures from the March 14th Meeting!





An image of the group gathered at the March 14th meeting, courtesy of Dave Fryauff.



Cooper Batchelder receiving his Rockhound Award.

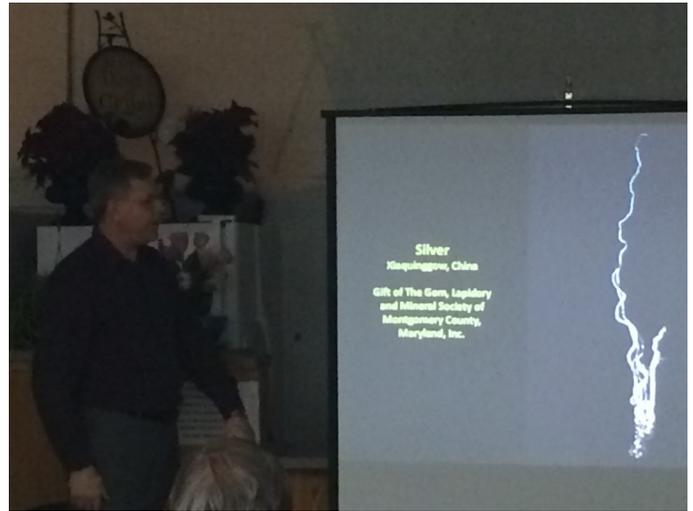


Conrad Smith was back from college for the March 14th Meeting!





This is a silver specimen acquired at Tucson by the Smithsonian from funds donated by our club.



These are some of the new Smithsonian acquisitions that Dr. Post showed in his lecture.





## Editor's Note

Olivia Luzier

I am reprinting this article from last month's issue of The Rockhounder because I accidentally left out Gerald Elgert's picture with his fabulous article. Now you can enjoy it again, complete with a picture!

## A Muirkirk Dilemma – Why Mostly Cypress?

Gerald Elgert

An interesting geological dilemma exists at the nearby Dinosaur Park, located just south of Laurel, in Prince George's County, Maryland. The park's geology is from a slice of time, roughly 115 millions of years ago, in what is know as the Cretaceous Era. Within the boundaries of the park there exists two formations, both the same age but with vastly differing characteristics. These are the Arundel and the Patuxent Formations. The present fenced in area of the park was once a meandering stream much as is the Mississippi River of today, as it flows through the bayou of what is now southern Louisiana. Periodically, this meandering river did as the present Mississippi, forming an almost complete curve, known as an oxbow. Wikipedia says this, "After a long period of time, the meander becomes very curved, and eventually the neck of the meander becomes narrower and the river cuts through the neck during a flood, cutting off the meander and forming an oxbow lake." Then the bow would dry out, leaving an oxbow lake or pond behind. In the Dinosaur Park, a prehistoric oxbow lake is now preserved in time and is in what we now know as the Arundel Formation. In fact, a series of these former oxbow lakes occur in the corridor between the cities of Baltimore and Washington, D.C., in what was once called, "Dinosaur Alley."



What is interesting about the Arundel Formation is the preserved fauna found there; it is mostly vertebrate material and mostly dinosaurs and all are known from their teeth and various disarticulated bones. Four species of turtles are known but Crocodilian teeth and armor are abundant as well as Gar Fish scales and a tooth from a freshwater shark. The most common plant material is carbonized wood preserved as lignite and siderite casts of metasequoia (a kind of cedar tree) cones. Considerable trace fossils also are found as impressions in siderite slabs and include plant leaves and tracks.

Now for the interesting part. The dilemma that exists is in the close proximity of the Arundel Formation with the Patuxent Formation; their boundaries touch. While the Arundel Formation deposits are almost exclusively clay and silt with large amounts of tree lignite, siderite nodules and

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## A Muirkirk Dilemma – Why Mostly Cypress?

Gerald Elgert

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preserved (but disarticulated) bones and teeth of vertebrates, the Patuxent Formation is primarily unconsolidated sand and clay, but with tree, fern and cycad fossils preserved as silicon replacement and often containing considerable cellular detail - but, not always. More often than not, these Patuxent Formation plant fossils are preserved in a state of decomposition. And, even more interesting, is that the fossil fauna found in the Arundel is not found in the Patuxent, and visa versa. As Peter Kranz in his 1998 paper on the Arundel Formation found, "Mostly Dinosaurs," in my studies with the Patuxent Formation, I have found, "Mostly Cedars."

Working with petrified plant material - tree, fern and cycad - collected from the Patuxent Formation within a 15 mile radius of the park, I have made a study collection of geological thin sections and have found but one species of tree, Bald Cypress. Tempskya fern and cycad have also been found and all are preserved while in an advanced state of decay.

My supposition is that cypress is a decay-resistant wood and therefore has been preserved more intact than other plant material in an environment that favors decay and incomplete preservation while undergoing petrification.

Actually, two species of cedar may have been found, Cupressaceae, known in present time as Dawn Redwood and Taxodium, as the Bald Cypress of the present day. Physically, on the surface and in preference for habitat, these are very different trees. Internally, however, in examination of the histology and cell structure, they are remarkably very similar. It is beyond the scope and intent of this present article to discuss these differences. The succession of events during this slice of time and differences between the found fauna will make another story.

### References

[history.pgparcs.com/sites\\_and\\_museums/Dinosaur\\_Park.htm](http://history.pgparcs.com/sites_and_museums/Dinosaur_Park.htm)

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## A Muirkirk Dilemma – Why Mostly Cypress?

Gerald Elgert

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[petrifiedwoodmuseum.org/Tempskya/Tempskya.pdf](http://petrifiedwoodmuseum.org/Tempskya/Tempskya.pdf)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oxbow\\_lake](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oxbow_lake)

[PlantNet/cycad/nitrogen/reading.html](http://PlantNet/cycad/nitrogen/reading.html)

### Acknowledgments

I would like to acknowledge and thank Dr. Shelly Jaye, a professor at the Annandale Campus of the Northern Virginia Community College, for providing access to the geology lab and geological thin section machine, with which I was able to make the histology sections so important in the identification of the plant material from Muirkirk and to Dr. Peter Kranz, without whom the Dinosaur Park would not exist. He has been a valued mentor providing insight and direction.

### Rockville Science Day

George Durland

George Durland will be presenting a project at the upcoming Rockville Science Day at 12 to 5PM on Sunday, April 24 at the Rockville Community College Campus. His project will be a hands-on demonstration of Fluorescence, Phosphorescence and Tenebrescence for the GLMSMC. This a public event and is free to all. There will be hundreds of different aspects of science on display.



### Websites of Interest

Wendell C. Mohr

#### “The Top Ten Mineral Localities on Earth, (Or So We Feel)”

Franklin & Sterling Hill Mine, NJ; Mont Saint Hilaire, Quebec; Broken Hill in New South Wales, Australia; Tsumeb Mine in the Otjikoto Region of Namibia; Kola Peninsula, Russia; the IL-KY Fluorspar District, Bisbee, Arizona; Ojuela Mine in Mapimi, Mexico; San Diego County CA Gem Pegmatites Region; and Jachymov District in Bohemia, Czech Republic make the list of Philip Persson of Denver, CO, a grad student at the Colorado School of Mines. What do you think of his selection?

<<http://wheretofindrocks.com/the-top-ten-mineral-localities-on-earth-or-so-we-feel/>>



Photo Credit Roger Weller  
Cochise College



Photo Credit Roger Weller  
Cochise College

#### Six Extinctions in Six Minutes

This title is surely a misnomer because the video alone is 8:19. But this American Museum of Natural History site walks you through the events punctuating paleo history with the comings and goings of creatures on earth. First proposed by Georges Cuvier in Paris in 1796 we now accept the fact that 99.999% of species are gone! Some of the factors in survival and extinction are discussed. *An* extinction event taking place now? What do you think?

<<http://www.amnh.org/shelf-life/episode-12-six-extinctions-in-six-minutes>>

#### Seeking the Legacy of Australian Sapphire

Consisting of a 6:20 video, plus numerous galleries, this is another outstanding Gemological Institute of America Incorporated site. The authors Tao Hsu, Andrew Lucas, and Vincent Pardieure detail much about the mining, the stones, and the people of eastern Australia geography. They state that beryllium treatment can give these stones an attractive golden color. Thailand has become the center for cutting and treating sapphires from all sources.

<[www.gia.edu/gia-news-research/seeking-legacy-australian-sapphire](http://www.gia.edu/gia-news-research/seeking-legacy-australian-sapphire)>



Photo Credit Roger Weller  
Cochise College



## Field Trip News

Dave Fryauff

**Please note that we need to have all RSVP names in to us at least 4 days before the date of the field trip so we can inform the quarry management.**

### Upcoming Field Trips:

**1. Saturday, April 2nd: Dinosaur Park**

13201 Mid-Atlantic Blvd, Laurel, MD 20708

All ages, family fun, wear boots! **12 noon to 4 pm.**

**2. Wednesday, April 6th: Bluegrass Texas Quarry**

10000 Beaver Dam Rd., Cockeysville, MD

Only ages 16 and up, **9am to noon**

Full safety gear, limit 20; RSVP to Sam Linton at <cooldragonshirts@yahoo.com>

**3. Sat. & Sun. April 23rd & 24th: Sterling Hill Mine in Ogedensburg, NJ Super Dig & Franklin, NJ Minerals Show**

Register online and have proof of current GLMSMC membership

**10 am to 11pm**, Full safety gear, ages 16 and up only.

**4. Tuesday, April 26: Beavercreek Quarry \*\***

**9:00 am to 12:00 pm**

10101 Mapleville Road, Hagerstown, MD 21740. **RSVP by April 22!**

**5. Saturday, May 7th: LaFarge Quarry**

1012 Garrisonville RD, Stafford VA 22556. Age >16, 8 am to noon. Full safety gear, limit 20 RSVP.

**6. Saturday, May 7th: DMS invite to Brandywine Springs County Park**

Contact Tom Pankratz at <tjpankratz@verizon.net>

**7. Tuesday, May 24th: Medford Quarry \*\***

9:00 am to 12:00 pm

1111 Medford Road, New Windsor, MD 21776. **RSVP by May 20!**

**8. Saturday, May 28th: Joint trip with DMS & North Jersey Min. Soc. to CK Williams Quarry**

Parking near the City of Easton Water Treatment Facility on N. Delaware Dr. (Rte. 611), Easton, PA meeting at 10am.

**9. Saturday, June 5th: DMS invite to Purse State Park, Charles Co., MD for low tide fossil collecting**

Contact Tom Pankratz at <tjpankratz@verizon.net>

**\*\*Note:** Thanks to Sam Linton for the legwork on these trips!

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## Field Trip News

Dave Fryauff

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### **The Sterling Hill Mine Super Dig**

**When:** Saturday, April 23, 2016

**Where:** Sterling Hill Mining Museum

**Time:** 9:00 am to 11:00 pm

**Description:**

- Take a tour of the mine.
- Take a private tour of the newly opened historic Trotter Tunnel.
- For this event ONLY, take a tour of the Upper Mine and Mill where you will receive a “Last Day of Operation” ore specimen right off the conveyor belt (certificate included).
- The ever-popular Blackout Tour of the mine “Tunnel of Love” (safety glasses required).
- See the nighttime illumination of the famous “Fluorescent Wall” in the Fill Quarry.
- And, collect minerals in all 3 collection areas on the property.
- See more at <http://sterlinghillminingmuseum.org/visitor/schedule.php#sthash.xZ2B8RS6.dpuf>
- Fees: \$20 per person
- Contact: 973-209-MINE or [info@sterlinghillminingmuseum.org](mailto:info@sterlinghillminingmuseum.org)
- See more at <http://sterlinghillminingmuseum.org/visitor/schedule.php#sthash.xZ2B8RS6.dpuf>

### **Annual New Jersey Earth Science Association (NJESA) Gem & Mineral Show/ Outdoor Swap & Sell**

**When:** Saturday, April 23, 2016-Sunday, April 24, 2016

**Where:** Franklin School in Franklin, NJ, and Sterling Hill Mining Museum in Ogdensburg, NJ

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

**Description:** The following events occur on April 23 (Saturday):

1. **NJESA Gem and Mineral Show at Franklin School:** 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. indoors, 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. for outdoor swap and sell
2. **Annual Show Banquet and Auction:** (6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.) with attendance limited to 60 people; held at Geotech Center, Sterling Hill Mining Museum
3. **Sterling Hill Garage Sale:** (10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) at Christiansen Pavilion, Sterling Hill Mining Museum
4. **Day-and-Night Mineral Collecting at Sterling Hill:** (9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.); organized by the Delaware Valley Earth Science Society and North East Field Trip Alliance; cost of \$20/person includes extended mine tour and registration; fee of \$1.50/lb. is charged for those participating in

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## Field Trip News

Dave Fryauff

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mineral collecting; preregistration required; see [www.uvworld.org](http://www.uvworld.org) for information.

The following events occur on April 24 (Sunday):

1. **NJESA Gem and Mineral Show:** (10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. indoors, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for outdoor swap and sell)
2. **Sterling Hill Garage Sale:** (10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) at Christiansen Pavilion, Sterling Hill Mining Museum
3. **Mineral Collecting at Sterling Hill:** (Daytime only, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.); collecting allowed on Mine Run dump and in the Passaic pit and "saddle" areas; open to the public; fees are \$5 admission plus \$1.50/lb for all material taken.
4. See more at <http://sterlinghillminingmuseum.org/visitor/schedule.php#sthash.xZ2B8RS6.dpuf>

Please remember to print out the waiver and rules (found below) and bring these papers if you show up for the Bluegrass Texas Quarry meetup on Wed., April 6th at 9am.

Those who are not coming to the Bluegrass Texas quarry but plan to participate in other field trips during the months ahead should print out the waiver and rules and bring your signed copy with you to the April 11th meeting.

### Waiver of Liability

#### Assumption of risks, waiver, and indemnification agreement (binding for all fieldtrips)

For the purpose of this waiver "field trip facilitators", also referred to as "releasees", include the Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Montgomery County (GLMSMC), owners, operators, and managers of properties visited as part of the field trip, any third party facilitating, supporting, or managing the field trips, and any affiliates, agents, or officers and directors of these entities. Fieldtrips are events, including educational and collecting trips, organized or announced by the GLMSMC, its officers and directors, or their agents. This agreement applies to all such trips as well as activities involving preparation for or transportation to the event.

#### ASSUMPTION OF RISKS

Field trip attendees are solely responsible for their own safety. If the attendee brings minor children,

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## Field Trip News

Dave Fryauff

*Continued from page 21*

the attendee is solely responsible for their safety and supervision. Fieldtrip facilitators provide no supervision of children. Quarries and other field trip sites have hazardous areas that cannot be made completely safe. Collecting is inherently risky. Risks include falls, wall collapses, collisions with mobile equipment, injury from falling material, flying material, inhalation of dust including asbestos, snakes, insects, contact with toxic natural or man-made material, explosions, and damage to personal vehicles. Neither the club or property owners provide any insurance or funds to treat injuries that occur during collecting. Attendees must rely on their own insurance and financial resources to handle such events. The fact that the club or property owner may insist attendees follow safety or etiquette rules or warn that an area or an activity is unsafe does not imply a duty to forbid attendees from or warn them away from all unsafe spots or unsafe activities. Attendees should not assume an area is safe just because others let you work there or are working there themselves. Attendees must use their own judgment, accept the consequences, and hold all others harmless.

Attendees recognize that the fieldtrip facilitators do not make any representations about the character or conduct of any third parties on the property or attending the fieldtrip and are not responsible for their conduct.

### **INDEMNIFICATION FROM ALL CLAIMS**

All attendees agree to indemnify, save, and hold harmless the releasees from any and all liability, causes of action, claims, demands, costs, or debts of any kind incurred or arising from participation in any fieldtrip, even if such cause is an injury or property damage resulting from error, omission, or negligence by one or more of the releasees. Attendees agree that this waiver is binding on any heirs, insurers, or third parties that may bring a claim on their behalf. If the terms of this waiver are unreasonable or unacceptable, one must not participate in the field trip.

### **INDEMNIFICATION OF RELEASEES AGAINST CLAIMS FROM MINOR CHILDREN OR OTHERS IN MY CARE**

If despite signing this waiver, I or another person, including my minor child, makes a claim resulting from my, my minor child, or dependents participation in this event or other fieldtrip, I will indemnify, save, and hold harmless each of the releases from any litigation expense, attorney fees, loss, liability, damage or costs any may incur as the result of such claim.

*Continued on page 23*



**Field Trip News**

Dave Fryauff

*Continued from page 22*

**OTHERS ARE PERMITTED TO INCLUDE PARTICIPANTS IN PHOTOGRAPHS OF FIELDTRIPS  
(PHOTO RELEASE)**

All participants grant to the fieldtrip facilitators and participants the right to take photographs of them and their family members or property present at the trip. The participants authorize any of the photographers or fieldtrip facilitators, their assigns and transferees to copyright, use and publish the same or in print and/or electronically. Participants agree that these individuals or organizations may use such photographs with or without their names for any lawful purpose, including for example, publicity, web content, or advertising.

**SEVERABILITY and JURISDICTION**

The attendee agrees that the venue for any dispute related to this agreement or any fieldtrip shall be the State of Maryland and the County of Montgomery. The attendee hereby expressly agrees that this release and waiver is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by applicable law and that if any portion hereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

**AGREEMENT TO FOLLOW RULES**

The attendee recognizes that participating in these fieldtrips is a privilege subject to revocation by any of the releasees. Attendees agree to follow all trip rules and agree to leave the property if asked to do so by the property owner or representative or employee of the property owner or trip leader, regardless of whether the attendee agrees with the decision. If the attendee disputes a decision of a fieldtrip leader, he or she must still follow the instructions of the leader and address the issue according to the rules of the respective club. The attendee agrees not to litigate such disputes and agrees that the above indemnification agreement applies to any such litigation he or his agent pursues on his behalf.

The undersigned has read, understands, and agrees to the above "Assumption of risks, waiver, and indemnification agreement," agrees to follow the rules (below or attached), and represents that they are a member in good standing of a participating club and are attending voluntarily and for their own enjoyment. I further acknowledge that my agreement applies to all GLMSMC fieldtrips.

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Field Trip News

Dave Fryauff

Continued from page 23

| Participant (signature)    | Printed Name | Date |
|----------------------------|--------------|------|
| If participant is a minor: |              |      |
| parent signature           | Parent name  | Date |

\*\*\*\*\*

Rules

1) Required safety equipment.

The following equipment is required for everyone, including minors. Collectors missing required safety equipment will be asked to leave.

- Hard Hat (ANSI Z89.1, certified for industrial head protection and with a mfg sticker showing it is no more than 5 years old. These are readily available at home improvement centers (ie. Home Depot, Lowes) and hardware stores. Bike helmets and other sport helmets are NOT suitable).
  - Eye protection – safety glasses and/or goggles
- Steel toed shoes (boots that provide ankle support are far safer than low cut steel toed shoes). Soft toed sport shoes are not safe or acceptable.
  - Gloves
  - Long pants
- Fluorescent safety construction vest (some quarries will require these, we may not know ahead of time).
  - Other safety equipment (we don't check for this, but you should use it!)

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## Field Trip News

Dave Fryauff

*Continued from page 24*

- sunscreen
- drinking water
- fully charged cellphone
  - snacks
  - raingear
- bandaids for minor cut

2) Children: I will post the age limits with each trip. In quarries where children are permitted, parents are responsible and assume all risk. Parents should stay with their children, watch them, and leave with them when they become too restless to be safely monitored. Children must have the required safety equipment specified above.

3) General rules: Collectors must RSVP by the date specified in the announcement. Quarries are hurting from the recession and don't want to send their employees out to supervise only two or three collectors, so we need to give an accurate headcount ahead of time. I will have to be less lax about this going forward. If I find I don't have enough people the Thursday or Friday before the trip, we may have to cancel. **DO NOT BE A NO-SHOW!!**

Collectors who are late may miss the safety briefing and hence the privilege of collecting. Please be on time!

It is important to obey all instructions of the group leader, the group leader of any other participating club, and quarry employees. Failure to do so or unsafe behavior can lead to a collector being forbidden to participate in future field-trips, and other sanctions.

In any site covered by OSHA or MSHA rules (quarries, construction sites), hard hats, eye protection, and hard toe boots must be worn at all times.

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## Field Trip News

Dave Fryauff

*Continued from page 25*

All trips will have a group leader, either the field-trip chair or his designee. Most quarries don't want groups entering without a leader.

If you find a spot and need to get a tool to work it or take a break, leave a tool by it to mark it as a spot. Honor other people's spots.

If you find a nice boulder, are studying it or starting to "work it" and another collector, who is also searching the area informs you that he "found" that a few minutes ago, politely thank him and let him know that you have decided to work on it.

Don't "claim" any spot you are not currently working, unless you are merely getting equipment to help you work it or taking a break. Let others have the joy of discovery. If you claim more than one spot at a time or keep searching for new spots, don't complain if someone starts working one of them. Removal all tools, food wrappers, and trash from the site; don't be a litter bug!

### **4) Collecting equipment.**

- Backpack for tools, etc.
- Water--for drinking and rinsing potential specimens.  
Newspaper & boxes -- for wrapping & carrying specimens
- Five gallon bucket (or something similar for schlepping things around)
- A 3-5 pound blacksmith's hammer or hand held sledge. Do not use carpenter's hammers!
- Cold chisels or masonry chisels. Use wood chisels only if you enjoy ruining your tools and showering yourself and your friends with shrapnel.
  - Long arm 8+ pound wrecking hammer--for breaking big boulders.
- An old pocket knife or small screw driver for prying apart small delicate specimens.
  - Magnifying glass or loup for examining smaller specimens.
  - Camera
- Battery powered UV lamp & dark shroud for lamping fluorescent minerals.
- Pen and notepad for signing safety briefing log and recording names, details, and useful information.

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**Field Trip News**

Dave Fryauff

*Continued from page 26*

**5) Photography.**

Photography is permitted. If the photos of company equipment are expected to be posted on the web-site, please ask the host employee for permission first. Please also inspect photos so that photos that may show inadvertent safety issues (e.g. someone who removed their goggles) are not distributed or posted on the web. We have had situations where this has created problems; and also situations where companies have used photos from club members in their material.

\*\*\*\*\*

**The 43rd Atlantic Micromounters' Conference: April 22-23, 2016**

This information comes from Kathy Hrechka, the Editor and Conference Chair of the Atlantic Micromounter's Conference on the 22nd to 24th of April.

Please join us at our 43rd Atlantic Micromounters' Conference on April 22-23 (four weeks away)!

- Speaker: Tony Nikischer, Excalibur Minerals of Charlottesville, VA
- Spring Hill Suites by Marriott: 6065 Richmond Highway, Alexandria, VA, 22303  
Phone: (571)-481-4441
- Club website: [www.dcmicrominerals.org](http://www.dcmicrominerals.org)

To access the MNCA's Mineral Mite newsletter:

- Go to [www.dcmicrominerals.org](http://www.dcmicrominerals.org)
- Click on the 'Newsletter' tab, which will take you to a new page that displays the current newsletter, with an advertisement for the conference on pages 1-2

Here is the link to the registration form for the conference:

<http://www.americangeode.com/blog/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Atlantic-Micromounters-Conference-registration-2016.pdf>



## Internal Audit/Review for 2015

Tom Dushel

### Review note:

At the request of the board of directors, I have performed the internal audit/review of the GLMSMC financial records for the year ending 12/31/15. Based on my experience as a CPA in public accounting and a controller/director in private industry, I attest that the financials are accurate and fairly stated. Holly has done a fantastic and thorough job. Thomas Dushel, CPA, current Treasurer

### Upcoming Shows

#### **South Penn Rock Swap & Sale**

--SPRING SWAP--

Saturday, May 14, 2016

8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

South Mountain Fairgrounds  
West of Arendtsville, PA on Route 234

For GPS, use address:  
615 Narrows Road, Biglerville, PA 17307

General admissions: \$1.00/person  
Table for Swappers: \$5.00/table

Sponsored by the Central Pennsylvania and  
Franklin County Rock & Mineral Clubs

Contact: [tsmith1012@comcast.net](mailto:tsmith1012@comcast.net)

#### **Mineral & Fossil Garage Sale- Spring 2016**

150+ flats of specimens

Thursday June 9, 5p-8p  
Friday June 10, 9a-1p and 5p-8p  
Saturday June 11 9a-1p  
\*or by appointment\*

Contact:  
Tom Smith  
10 Roger Avenue, Shippensburg, PA 17257  
717-552-6554  
[tsmith1012@comcast.net](mailto:tsmith1012@comcast.net)

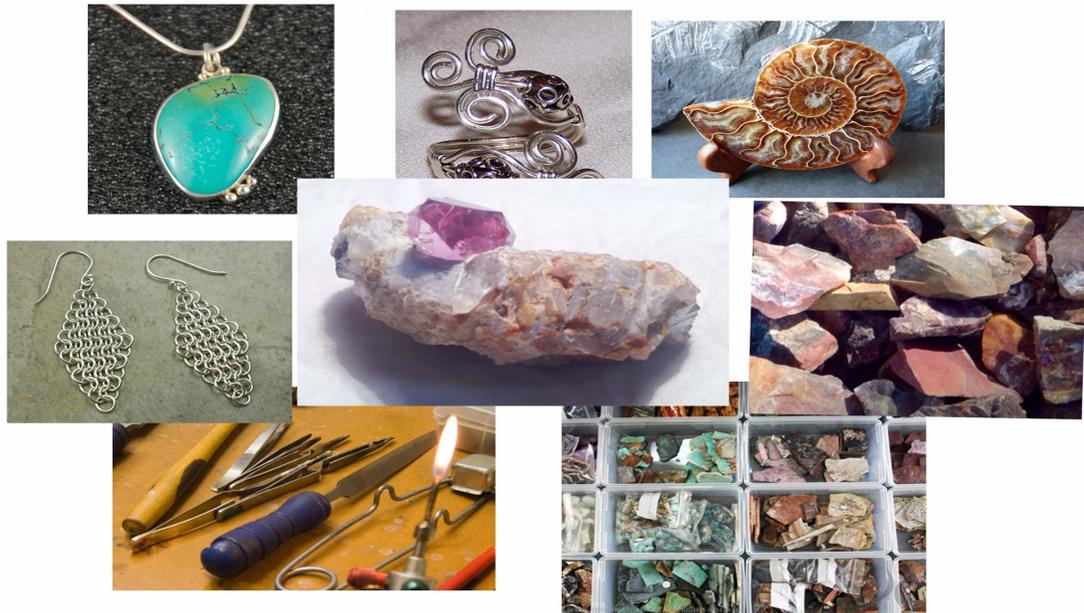
2.1 miles from center of Shippensburg on  
Earl Street Extended (Route 696)  
past Shippensburg University.  
At Middle Spring Motors, turn right onto Roger  
Avenue,  
second house on left after intersection.



## Upcoming Shows

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### Patuxent Lapidary Guild, Inc. Annual Gem, Jewelry, Fossil and Mineral Show



**April 16th 2016 10:00am to 5:00pm**

**At the Earleigh Heights Fire Hall in Severna Park, MD 21146**

**Admission \$2.00 per person. Children under 10 Free**

**Activities for the whole family, large childrens corner  
Door Prizes every hour. Many quality vendors.**

**Mine for gems, shop for a new one of a kind piece of jewelry,  
see how to cut a cabochon, or facet a stone  
Join and learn to make your own!**

**Vendors please visit [www.patuxentlapidary.org](http://www.patuxentlapidary.org) for information**

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## Upcoming Shows

*Continued from page 29*

### **The Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club is graciously sponsoring the 2016 EFMLS Region Potluck Picnic and Rock Swap/Sale!**

Details are as follows:

**Event:** 2016 EFMLS Region IV Potluck Picnic and Rock Swap/Sale

**Sponsored by:** Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club

**Date:** Saturday, June 18, 2016

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**Location:** Gilbert Run Recreational Park

13140 Charles Street

Charlotte Hall, MD

Admission to the Park is \$5 per carload  
(No charge for swapping or selling)

**Contact Person:** Dave Lines (240) 427-7062

Dave.Lines@earthlink.net (mailto:dave.lines@earthlink.net)

For more information about this event you can visit <http://www.smrnc.org> and click on Region IV Rock Swap & Sale. Thank you for your attention to this important EFMLS Region IV event.

Hope to see you there!

Jean Charsky  
EFMLS Region IV VP



## Items of Interest

Wendell C. Mohr

### **Geology of Great Falls, Virginia Saturday, April 9 (9 am-2pm)**

**Leader: Joe Marx**

**Audubon Naturalist Society Members \$30; nonmembers \$42**

The Potomac River drops about sixty feet at Great Falls and then enters a deep, narrow, mile-long gorge. For the last half century, geologists have conducted intensive studies of the Great Falls area, deciphering the evolution of the underlying bedrock and the present landforms. We will hike a 4-mile loop on the River Trail and the Old Carriage Road, discussing the sometimes surprising results of the research. The hike will be moderately strenuous, with some rocky, uneven, or muddy stretches and some uphill/downhill hiking. The pace set and distance covered on this geology field trip will be faster and farther than our usual "naturalists shuffle."

### **Geology Merit Badge: Wild Cave Excursion**

Come learn about cave formations, cave life, and cave complexities.

On the first day of this two day excursion, we'll meet from

10am-2pm and explore geology in the classroom through

hands-on activities and experiments. Then on Day 2, we'll meet

from 8am-5pm and climb, crawl, and twist through passages inside

a wild cave in Shepherdstown, West Virginia! Fee includes van

transportation to West Virginia. Please bring a bag lunch both days.

#### **Meadowside Nature Center**

12585 10-17yrs 2 Classes \$125 W-Th 6/29-6/30

**Contact <ActiveMONTGOMERY.ORG> for registration and information**

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## Items of Interest

Wendell C. Mohr

*Continued from page 31*

### **Geology of the Gettysburg Battlefield**

**Saturday, April 30 (10 am-3pm)**

**Leader: Joe Marx**

**Audubon Naturalist Society Members \$30; nonmembers \$42**

Although geology in 1863 was an immature science and military geology had not yet been invented, the terrain of southern Pennsylvania directly influenced the strategies and actions of the Union and Confederate armies in their climactic clash at Gettysburg. We will tour the battlefield by car and on foot, visiting a number of sites that reveal the geologic processes and materials that created the landscape. In addition, we will discuss several of the regional topographic features that funneled the two armies to their meeting place. We will do several short and relatively easy circuit hikes, totaling a couple of miles in both open and wooded terrain. The ground will vary from dusty or muddy to rocky, and from level to relatively steep. Note: The pace on our geology hikes is faster than the usual naturalists' shuffle.

Registration information at [www.anshome.org](http://www.anshome.org)

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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**Society Address:** Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Montgomery County MD., Inc.  
P. O. Box 444, Gaithersburg MD 20884-0444

**Website:** <http://www.glmsmc.com/>

All Society correspondence is to be sent to this address except that which is intended for The Rockhounder and its editor. Such items are to be sent to the editor's email address at [editor@glmsmc.com](mailto:editor@glmsmc.com).

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Award Winning Bulletin  
EFMLS, AFMS



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