

September 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 October issue to Editor Olivia Luzier at editor@glmsmc.com by Friday, September 30, 2016.

Regular Meeting Announcements

Gary Leaman, Vice President

September Speaker: Ben Andrews

Title of Talk: "Experimental Volcanology and Petrology at Smithsonian: Laboratory insights into otherwise unobservable volcanic processes"

Many volcanic processes present substantial observational challenges. For example, quantitative description of the interior structures of pyroclastic flows or eruption plumes would greatly improve our understanding of explosive eruptions, but the hazards associated with those phenomena make collecting such data practically impossible. Similarly, the rate at which magmas ascend from pre-eruptive storage to the surface controls many aspects of eruption behavior, but we cannot sample natural magmas as they ascend from about 5 km to the surface to study their textural evolution. Carefully designed experiments, however can provide various means of examining some (but not all) aspects of volcanic systems. Facilities at the National Museum of Natural History allow researchers to make magma in the lab, and model explosive eruption processes.

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Next Regular Meeting:

Date: Monday,
September 12, 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, Sept. 26, 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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Petrology experiments show how certain minerals can track magma mixing events—some of which may trigger eruptions – or illuminate the special conditions required for obsidian formation. Pyroclastic flow experiments provide insights into how far those dangerous currents will travel and why they lift off to form plumes that threaten aviation.

Speaker Information:

Ben Andrews is a geologist and member of the Mineral Sciences Staff at the Smithsonian National Museum of National History. He obtained a Ph.D. at The University of Texas at Austin (2009) and a M.S. at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (2004).

The video from his Mineral Science Staff web-site can be viewed with iTunes. <u>Volcanology at the Smithsonian: Experimental insights and direct observations</u> (iTunes)

Some of the information for Ben has been gathered from:

http://mineralsciences.si.edu/staff/pages/andrews.htm
http://mineralsciences.si.edu/share/andrews/index.html

A brief description of Ben's work covers:

Volcanic eruptions are spectacular phenomena, but pose hazards to many populations around the world. Explosive eruptions can eject pyroclastic rocks that radically and quickly alter the landscape, destroy buildings and affect air travel thousands of kilometers away. My research focuses on understanding volcanoes from storage, through decompression (and fragmentation), to eruption. To study those processes I use experimental petrology, laboratory analyses, field work, and experimental volcanology. I work as a curator and geologist in the Department of Mineral Sciences within the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History. In addition, I work with the Smithsonian's Global Volcanism Program.

Ctrl click the blue web references above for further information.



Regular Meeting Announcements (Cont'd)

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Other Speaker Information:

For October, the planned topic is Wildacres, given by Gary and Diane Leaman, Frances Becker, and Dave Fryauff. Come and see some of the items that you can make at Wildacres.

For November, the planned topic is open to the club members to bring in their most cherished rock, mineral, or fossil (fluorescent or not) and share with the club where they found this specimen and what its significance is in their collection. Members can also share what they enjoy collecting and why they enjoy collecting that type of specimen or locality. This topic was very popular when we tried it for the first time last year, so we decided to do it again.

President's Message

Jonathan G. Harris

Fellow Rockhounders, welcome back. First I should note, congratulations to our Rockhound of the Year, Chris Luzier. I will leave the rest to Holly's beautiful and concise announcement that appeared in the American Federation of Minerological Society's summer newsletter and republished in this issue of the Rockhounder.

Hopefully the summer has provided you with some good opportunities to enjoy the outdoors or work on the indoor projects. Bring your finds and creations to our fall meetings for all to see at our show table or start thinking about which ones to include in your case at our annual Show.

The fall will kick off our regular meetings with a new lineup of engaging programs for both oldest and youngest of the Rockhound species. Also, you can see there will be fieldtrips and shows where you can grow your circle of specimens and friends.

Finally, please do remember to pay your annual dues so you can continue to participate in our programs.



GLMSMC Regular Meeting Minutes

There has not been a regular meeting since the previous edition of The Rockhounder.

GLMSMC Board Meeting Minutes

There has not been a Board meeting since the previous edition of The Rockhounder.

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

Mark Dahlman

Next Meeting Date: September 12, 2016

Meeting Time: 7:45-9:00pm

Meeting Location: Sunroom Cafeteria at the Rockville Senior Center

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



Remember to Pay Your Dues

Doug Baum

Over 25% of our members have already sent in their 2016-2017 dues. Thank You.

Before our September meeting, please try and mail in your dues for 2016-2017.

Family dues are \$20 (two adults and children under 18) and single is \$15. Send self-addressed envelope and I will send you back membership cards.

Mail to Douglas Baum, 11205 Golden Meadow Court, Germantown, MD 20876.

Questions? Email me at dbaum18@aol.com.

Very Important. Please only include family members that will be active with club activities and make sure I have the most updated information for you and your family members.

Rockhound of the Year

The Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Montgomery County Maryland would like to recognize Chris Luzier as our 2015 Rockhound of the Year. During his terms as Vice President and President, Chris showed great leadership and an ability to tactfully smooth ruffled feathers. Chris's good nature and dedication to the Club continues in all the additional things he does—running auctions, picking up club donations, or cajoling members to join the Board. When no one else speaks up to take on a needed task, Chris is the one to say "I'll do it" and he does, with a smile.

GLMSMC

Board of Directors



Field Trip News

Dave Fryauff

This is an invitational field trip and all who are interested in attending must register with Dave Callahan <dbcall1@aol.com> by Sep 22, 2016.

Willis Mountain Kyanite mine is a REALLY GREAT field trip site and it is a working open pit type of mine that only opens its doors once a year to collectors. Last year was my first year to collect there and there were at least 100 rockhounds there from all over. They have great facilities and lots of people made it into a cookout event.

The location is down in central VA between Richmond and Appamatox. Early morning on I-95 might be the fastest route to get you there at 9am.

Mindat lists 27-30 minerals species from this site; some of which are very rarely seen or collected. The bright, irridescent peacock colors of Goethite variety 'turgite' are really cool and you can find ice-blue Kyanite blades of several inches if you are lucky. Even Sulfur can be found there. I can add Strengite to this list.

See the following information to sign up:

OFFICIAL COMBINED MINERAL COLLECTING FIELD TRIP THE GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY OF LYNCHBURG, VA INC. (HOST) AND THE ROANOKE VALLEY MINERAL AND GEM SOCIETY INC. (HOST)

An official Field trip of the Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Montgomery Co., MD

KYANITE MINING CORP. DILLWYN, VA. -- ANNUAL FIELD TRIP WILLIS MOUNTAIN KYANITE MINE

If the mine is working, we may have to limit our collecting areas

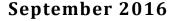
September 24, 20169:00AM to 1 PM

Sign-up is required, call me, email me or sign-up at the meeting. If you cancel, notify me to be taken off the list as space may be limited due to the expanded list of clubs now participating in this annual event.

All club field trip leaders send me a list of your total collectors so that I can compile a list and forward to the mine management by 9-22-16. There is a limit of 150 collectors from all clubs for this event so there will be room for everyone.

SAFETY: Everyone must arrive at the office parking lot **no later than 8:30AM** to sign the release form and hear the required safety briefing. Each Club field trip leader, or their appointed replacement, will act as safety observer while in the mine and will be expected to be on the lookout for and correct all safety infractions from any collector from any club. Keep in mind that this site is one of the few that

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Field Trip News

Continued from page 6

is still open for collecting. Not obeying all the safety rules will cause this site to be closed to all future collecting.

DRIVING FROM THE ROANOKE AND LYNCHBURG AREA: From Roanoke, follow US 460 East to Lynchburg, to the Sheets Station on US 460 and Rt. 811 in New London. Continue on the US 460 East by -pass around Lynchburg thru Appomattox and take Rt. 24 North to its end at US 60, Mt. Rush. Continue on US 60 East to Sprouses Corner. Turn right on US 15 South and drive 4 miles to Willis Mt. Plant Road. Turn left and stop at the stone mine office. Park out of the way as not to block traffic. Do not park along Rt. 15. Allow 1 1/4 minimum hour driving time from New London west of Lynchburg to the mine office.

GENERAL LOCATION and ASSEMBLY TIME: Everyone will meet at the mine office for sign-in and safety instruction so be there **no later than 8:30am.** The mine is located north of Farmville, Va. on Rt. 15 North, James Madison Highway. Proceed from US 460 North on Rt. 15 for a little over 12 miles to Willis Mt. Plant Rd. The stone mine office is on the right. If you approach from Rt. 60 at Sprouses Corner, then go south on Rt. 15 for 4 miles to Willis Mt. Plant Rd. and the office will be on your left. Wait in the parking lot and do not block traffic. Many trucks may be using the road. While you're waiting, be sure to enjoy the beautiful blue kyanite bolder in the front yard from the old closed Baker Mountain.

COLLECTING: Willis Mountain is what's known as a monadnock. The kyanite exposure resisted weathering and, as the surrounding area was eroded and weathered away, the mountain outcrop was left standing. This is very much like the famous Graves Mountain kyanite mine in Georgia. The center of the mountain has been mostly mined away. We should be able to find plenty of white kyanite blades in the massive kyanite quartzite; pyrite; quartz; hematite with some iridescence, red mica, green mica, apatite and possibly some blue kyanite and pale green trolleite. Some of the white kyanite and quartz here has a beautiful light blue fluorescence and the apatite is yellow so bring your short wave lamp and blackout cloth.

EQUIPMENT: The standard quarry safety gear required is a hard hats with a mfg. date of 5 years or less, safety glasses, a pair of wheel chocks ether purchased, home made or even a rock is acceptable. Every time you leave the car, turn off the engine, put in park and apply the hand brake and wheel chocks. ONLY STEEL OR MSHA (Federal Mine Safety and Health Act) APPROVED RE-INFORCED FIBERGLASS TOED BOOTS WILL BE ALLOWED, THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS!!! . If you do not have all the required safety equipment, you will not be allowed to enter the quarry. Also required are safety glasses, long pants, gloves, hammer and chisels, wrapping paper, buckets, and water. It is very important to stay hydrated as it may be very hot. If you have any medical condition that would put you in any danger, do not attempt this trip. For your own safety, let your field trip leader or collecting buddy know if you have any medical condition that could be a problem for you. Be prepared for windy, hot or wet weather. We will be on the mountain top and it's always



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windy. We can drive to the designated collecting area, so hand trucks should not be needed. Bring a camera, as the view is awesome.

AFTER THE DIG SOCIAL: This year, the pavilion beside the office will be available immediately after the dig at 1PM to relax, cool off, eat your lunch. This will also be a social get together so that we can have a chance to become better acquainted with the members of our rock club neighbors and to provide some time to relax before their long ride home. You might want to bring your own lawn chair. There may also be other groups there as invited guests of Kyanite Mining.

AGE LIMIT: There is no age limit, but no toddlers please. All children <u>must be signed for, closely supervised by an adult and never left un-attended. They must also have all the required safety equipment. **No Exceptions!!!** If parents have any questions about what is acceptable for your child, please call me and we will discuss it.</u>

WEATHER: The trip will be canceled due to safety concerns in case of hard rain or a thunderstorm. Call to confirm if there is any question.

CONTACT: David Callahan, Phone: 540-297-1853, Cell: 540-874-5201 (day of trip only please) Field Trip Chairman for the Lynchburg and Roanoke Clubs

email dbcall1@aol.com

web sites www.LynchburgRockClub.org and www.rvmgsoc.org

Chris Barr Article

Please also note this article about one of our Society members, Chris Barr:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/express/wp/2016/08/18/heres-how-to-find-d-c-s-accidental-museum-of-paleontology/



Wendell C. Mohr

The Crystal Collector: Digging Amethyst Quartz Crystals

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2SUQh1rPA3s

See the 14 minute 2014 video about the recovery of amethysts from muddy walls of the Ellis Mine in South Carolina. As is customary, we do not endorse purchase of specimens. Viewing this one makes me anxious to get out there to collect during cooler fall weather.



Photo from Wikipedia



Photo from Mark Wilson, College of Wooster, Public Domain

The Burgess Shale

http://burgess-shale.rom.on.ca/en/

"The Burgess Shale" is by the Geological Survey of Canada and allows you to become familiar with this world famous site. The sea odyssey covers the variety of creatures that existed, with now-preserved remains of soft-bodied, and often bizarre, animals and algae dating from the Cambrian period. See the fossil gallery. The science and history are covered and there is information about how you may visit sites.

Earthquake Facts and Fantasy

<http://earthquake.usgs.gov/learn/ topics/megaqk_facts_fantasy.php>

"Earthquake Facts and Fantasy" is by the U.S. Geological Survey and will help you clarify questions about quakes. For factual examples: the largest earthquake ever recorded by seismic instruments anywhere on the earth was a magnitude 9.5 earthquake in Chile on May 22, 1960; also, the deadliest earthquake in recorded history struck Shensi province in China in 1556, killing about 830,000 people. For a fictitious example: humans or animals can predict earthquakes.



Photo from Wikipedia



Upcoming Classes

Gemology I Introductory

Ages 18 & Up: Want to know about those gems you are wearing on your rings, necklaces, bracelets, brooches? Curious about how gemstones came to be? Beginning Gemology, organized around the Mohs' scale of hardness, is an introduction to gemstone study. There will be hands-on specimens and examples to examine during each class.

12 Sessions \$108
Instructor: Timothy Morgan
25094 Potomac cac 9/15 Th 10:00am11:15am

Gemology II Advanced

Ages 18 & Up: Prerequisite - Beginner or Intro class. Interested in gemstones, but already know a little something about them? Want to learn more? This class examines gemstones and gemstone groups with examples and hands-

on specimens. Guest speaker and field trip possible.

13 Sessions \$117 Instructor: Timothy Morgan

25095 Potomac cac 9/14 W 10:00am-12:15pm

ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR ADULT AUDUBON NATURALIST SOCIETY PROGRAMS

Visit www.ANShome.org/adultnatureprograms and click on "Register Online." All adult program participants will be "New-Users" the first time they register. All changes/cancellations/transfers must be handled through the EE office.

If a class is full, you may waitlist for it for free online.

Questions? Call Pam at 301-652-9188 x16 or email pam.oves@anshome.org.



Upcoming Classes

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Georgetown Geology Loop Hike

Saturday, September 24 (9 am-1 pm)

Leader: Joe Marx Members Members: \$24; nonmembers: \$34

The Georgetown section of Washington, DC sits squarely on a mass of ancient granite, surrounded by various other types and ages of rock. The hike will be about 5 miles long, through wooded parkland and along city streets. The terrain is easy to moderate, with hills being the biggest challenge. During the hike, we will visit the Coastal Plain, three canyons, the Piedmont upland, and a major fault zone. Not bad for a walk around town.

Geology of the Gettysburg Battlefield

Sunday, October 30 (10 am-3pm)

Leader: Joe Marx

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 these geology hikes is faster than the usual naturalist's shuffle.



South Penn Rock Swap & Sale --FALL SWAP--

Saturday, October 29, 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

The Northern Berkshire Mineral Club's Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show

Saturday and Sunday, September 10-11 Saturday: 10:00 AM-6:00 PM Sunday: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #310, 515 Curran Highway, Rte. 8, North Adams, MA

The event will include gems, minerals, crystals, fossil, gifts, door prizes, refreshments, and activities for children.

The cost of admission is \$4 and children under 15 are free with an adult.

For questions, please contact the club president, Larry Michon, at 413-663-8430.



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Fossil Show Howard County Fairgrounds

Saturday 10 AM-6 PM Sunday 10 AM-5 PM

2210 Fairgrounds Road, West Friendship, MD 21794

Adults \$6.00 • One dollar discount with this postcard

Scouts in uniform and children under 12 accompanied by an adult are free.



Tuscarora Lapidary Society Presents

GEMARAMA 2016

One of the largest Fine Gem, Jewelry and Mineral Shows on the East Coast

November 5th: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

November 6th: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Our 47th Year Theme: Down Under

Hall D, Greater Philadelphia EXPO Center 100 Station Avenue, Oaks, PA 19456

One ticket good for discounts for your entire family!

Donation – \$6 • With this ticket – \$5 • Two-Day Ticket – \$9 • Children under 12 yrs. – \$1

To receive our emails for discount ticket, show, course, and workshop information, please enter

your email address:_____

- Demonstrations
- Exhibits
- Dealers
- Free Parking
- Food
- Children's Activities
- Gems Jewelry
- Beads
- Fossils
- Minerals
- Findings & More!

For information: www.lapidary.org. Ticket may be duplicated.

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The Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Washington, DC

Come join us for monthly meetings, lectures, fieldtrips and hands-on education!

Sale and Auction:

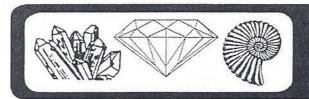
Place: The Woman's Club of Bethesda, at the corner of Old Georgetown Road and 5500 Sonoma Road, Bethesda, MD 20817 Across the street from NIH

Sunday October 30, 2016 Sale and Auction Preview: Noon - 2pm Auction: 2pm - 5pm Free admission! Free parking in the parking lot and side streets!

Free pearl identification & Door Prizes!

www.glmsdc.org

facebook: glmsdc



25th Annual **GEM, MINERAL** AND FÓSSIL SHOW

Sponsored by the Dept. of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Earth Sciences at GMU

Presented by The Northern Virginia Club, Inc.

www.novamineralclub.org

Date:

November 19 & 20, 2016

Place:

The Hub Ballroom (Student Union II Bldg)

George Mason University Campus

Braddock Rd. & Route 123, Fairfax, VA

Hours:

Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 10am-4pm

Admission: Adults: \$6, Seniors: \$4, Teens (13-17): \$3

Children 12 & under, Scouts in uniform, and GMU Students w/valid ID are FREE.

with this card (applies to all adults + seniors in your group)

Demonstrations, Exhibits, and Door Prizes. Mini-mines for children to dig in and get free fossils and minerals.

Over 20 Dealers with Fossils, Minerals, Crystals and Gems for sale.

Use Parking lot A, enter Lot A from Nottaway River Lane. Look for our Courtesy Shuttle to Mineral Show



Upcoming Shows

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MINERAL TREASURES + FOSSIL FAIR



2017 ANNUAL SHOW



The Philadelphia Mineralogical Society and the
Delaware Valley Paleontological Society
present a joint show and sale at the LuLu Temple,
5140 Butler Pike, in Plymouth Meeting, PA.
Just 2 miles from the Norristown exit of the PA Turnpike!

Saturday, March 25, 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday, March 26, 10 am to 4 pm

Special exhibit by the Academy of Natural Sciences

Fossils, Minerals, Gems, Speakers, and Exhibits!

Learning activities include a Fossil Dig and a Kids' Mineral Corner.

Also – Scouting Merit Badge Information available.

Food and Door Prizes throughout both days.

\$5.00 admission; \$1.00 kids under 12. All uniformed Scouts are free.

Information: www.philamineralsociety.org



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Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show

*** At New Location ***

March 4-5, 2017

Saturday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm Sunday 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

** NEW SHOW LOCATION **
U of Delaware - Wilmington Campus
Arsht Hall

2800 Pennsylvania Ave. (Rt-52) Wilmington, DE 19806 Show Theme: Quartz of course
An Educational Experience for All

Outstanding Minerals & Fossil Dealers Gem, Jewelry & Lapidary Supplies Demonstrations, Exhibits & Door Prizes Jr. Booth for Kids

Adults: \$6.00 (\$1.00 off with this coupon)
Seniors: \$5.00
Juniors (age 12-16): \$4.00
FREE to Children and all Scouts in Uniform
Additional Information @ www.delminsociety.net

Coupon can be Duplicated

The Baltimore Mineral Society

is pleased to announce

the 60th Annual October 14-16, 2016 Paul Desautels Micromount Symposium

The Friends School of Baltimore

5114 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21210

Symposium Chair: Mike Seeds

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

President – Jonathan Harris, 11932 Goya Drive, Potomac, MD 20854-3313, (301-545-0808) **Vice President** – Gary Leaman, 7524 Cinnabar Terrace, Gaithersburg, MD 20879-4577, (301-963-3702)

Secretary – Jeff Cessna, 12116 Cliftondale Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20904-1941, (301-680-7963)

Treasurer – Tom Dushel, 108 Berrywood Drive, Severna Park MD 21146-2004, (443-514-6734)

Field Trip Chairman – Dave Fryauff, 24109 Sugar Cane Lane, Laytonsville MD 20882-4031, (301-253-1687)

Membership Chairman – Doug Baum, 11205 Golden Meadow Ct., Germantown, MD 20876-1740, (301-515-4641)

Downstairs Showchair — Holly McNeil, 22 South Duke Street, Rockville, MD, 20850-1014, (301-605-7179)

Upstairs Showchair — Dave Tiktinsky, 9209 Laurel Oak Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817-1937, (301-365-2812)

Property Manager – Joel Rosen, 833 Rampart Way, Union Bridge, MD 21791-9325, (410-775-7937) **Immediate Past President** – Chris Luzier, 847 Springdale Drive, Millersville, MD, 21108-1436, (443-995-5363)

EFMLS Liaison – Wendell Mohr, 9509 Emory Grove Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20877-3501, (301-926-7190)

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Life Members: Larry Harrison, Wendell Mohr, Juan Proaño, and George Durland **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.

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Award Winning Bulletin
EFMLS, AFMS











TIME SENSITIVE
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