



# The Rockhounder

June 2018

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 submissions for the July issue of The Rockhounder to Editor Olivia Luzier at [editor@glmsmc.com](mailto:editor@glmsmc.com) by Saturday, June 23rd, 2018.

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## Regular Meeting Announcements

Steven Calamuci, Vice President

## June Speaker Information:

**Speaker:** Jeff Nagy

**Title of Talk:** “Mining in Maryland”

The speaker this month will be our very own member, Jeff Nagy. Jeff has worked to completely revise and update the *Minerals of the Washington DC Area* by Lawrence Bernstein. Jeff is an active faceter, has been directly involved in researching old mines, and has had many papers published. He volunteers at the Montgomery County Historical Society.

Follow us on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/984241208329511/>

### Next Regular Meeting:

**Date:**  
Monday,  
June 11, 2018

**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, June 18, 2018** at the home of

Jonathan Harris. Board members are expected to be there. Any member is welcome to attend, but please let Jonathan know if you plan to attend.

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### President's Message

Ken Reynolds

Hello Rockhounds,

As the summer months of July and August approach, I urge our members to use this time to further their interests in our hobby! It is a great time of year for collecting fossils and minerals and there are so many opportunities to do so. Our field trip coordinator, Dave Fryauff, always has a nice line up of field trips available as a club member. I look forward to seeing what he has for us in the coming months.

There are many opportunities to collect on your own. One of my favorite local spots is Purse State Park in Marbury, MD, for fossil and shark teeth collecting. There are also many spots along the Chesapeake Bay. The Calvert Marine Museum in Solomons Island, MD, is a great day trip to see examples of what you may find along the shore and Calvert Cliffs is right up the road to do some collecting. It is best to time it during low tide.

Another one of my favorites is the Pickering Golf Course in Phoenixville, PA. On the property are remnants of the famous lead mines, the Brookdale Mine, and down the creek is the New Southwest Chester Mine. Both have mine tillings to search for minerals such as Pyromorphite, Anglesite, Pyrite, Quartz, etc. Please check in with the pro shop on the golf course before collecting.

As for minerals such as "gold," Rocky Run off Brickyard Rd. in Potomac, MD, is a great spot to find some. Beware—you might have to compete with the perennial locals who get the best spots! If you don't mind driving a bit, my favorites for fluorescent minerals are of course the Sterling Hill Mine in Ogdensburg, NJ, and the Buckwheat Dump at the Franklin Mineral Museum in Franklin, NJ. Both of these are about a 4-1/2 hour drive. It is best to make it a weekend trip. Herkimer diamonds are also available for collecting in Herkimer, NY. It too would require an overnight stay, but is a fantastic trip if you haven't done it yet.

No matter what you choose to do in your time off from club meetings in July and August, I implore you to document your trips and experiences. You can give a presentation or write about it in our newsletter. Whatever you choose to do, have a great summer!

Cheers and "Rock On,"  
Ken Reynolds, President



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## GLMSMC Regular Meeting Minutes for May 14, 2018

Karen Lottes

Meeting was called to order at 7:55 PM by Ken Reynolds. There were approximately 40 people in attendance, 35 adults and 5 juniors. He announced that the Chesapeake Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show is this weekend. It is Saturday only with free admission. Dave Fryauff noted that there is a field trip this Saturday at the Garrisonville Quarry from 8 AM-12:00 PM. It's a great zeolite place. Also on Saturday is the spreading of Dr. Pete Dunn's ashes at Sterling Hill, NJ. Finally, we had a great weekend at the Super Dig.

Holly McNeil said we need to amend last month's Board meeting minutes. We need to change the passage in the Board minutes about taxes to read: "The federal taxes have been filed. We have filed for an extension for Maryland personal property taxes."

**Motion to pass the minutes as amended. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Holly McNeil reported on new members. New members are Richard Jelly and Patrick Haynes. She also gave the treasurer's report. The April auction went really well. There are some straggling show expenses. Pat Haynes donated a box of rocks for the kids' program.

Mark Dahlman presented the Leadership Badge to Jennifer. The group rarely presents this badge because of everything that's involved, but Jennifer earned it. She organized the group display and ran the kids' table at the show and she continues to be active as a leader of the group.

Chris Luzier reported that Margaret Poore has donated some of her father's collection to the group. James Warren Smith, "Smitty," was once president of GLMSMC.

Welcome back to Jeff Cessna who has been out due to an extended illness.

### **PRESENTATION**

Gary Leaman introduced Frank Roddy, president of the Leisure World GLMS.

Frank gave a fascinating talk about how flooding during the Ice Age altered the formation and placement of rocks throughout the Scablands in Washington state. The area is primarily basalt fields, but flooding created channels and moved huge boulders of granite and quartz hundreds of miles from where they were originally.

The Ice Age Floods National Geological Trail has been created and there are guide books to help you follow the trails.



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## GLMSMC BOD Meeting Minutes for May 21, 2018

Karen Lottes

Present: Gary, Dave T, Jonathan, Chris, Holly, Joel, Karen, Ken

Meeting was called to order at 7:43 PM.

Donation from Margaret Poore: Chris brought the donation of material from her father; this donation was mentioned in the last regular meeting minutes. It is a lot of lapidary stuff, some fire opals. This is an outright donation and we need to send a thank-you letter. He's going to give the kids' program first dibs on the material because they want to work on the lapidary badge. Then Joel can see if there's anything he wants for door prizes. We'll auction the rest.

There was an extended speaker discussion. We need to look for possible speakers for future programs. Everyone said that they would pass any speaker information they know of to Steve.

Tax Discussion: Because there is a general concern with the new changes to the tax code, we want to be sure that we are doing everything in the best way possible. Holly and Jonathan worked on some questions that Gary will be giving his CPA for answers.

**Move to authorize payment up to \$1,000 for CPA services which will provide a written response to our queries. Motion passed.**

Auction Discussion: There is a lot more material in the Rockville collection. We determined that we should have the next auction in January. We were rushed to get this one out and think we can do better making the sale lots and promoting if we give ourselves more time.

There was continued discussion on the Lapidary Shop. Gary has taken one of the machines apart and really serviced it. They are 50+ years old, but sturdy. It would be good to have a couple of new machines. Karen offered to contact Diamond Pacific and see if they would exchange 2 machines for Lapidary Shop sponsorship.

**Motion for Karen to approach Diamond Pacific on behalf of the Club with offer of two machines for sponsorship of the Lapidary Shop for 5 years. Motion passed.**

*Continued on page 5*



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## GLMSMC BOD Meeting Minutes for May 21, 2018

Karen Lottes

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Also, Chris spoke with Reed, who said that he would be willing to continue to help with the Lapidary Shop.

We have again been invited to do a rock and mineral day at the Gaithersburg Community Museum, this time in January. We had a great time two years ago when we did it, so there was Board Agreement to have volunteers staff the rock and mineral day again. We need to find out date and time for final commitment.

There was a Facebook and website discussion. We decided that everyone on the Board should explore the website and Facebook page then report back at the next Board meeting to suggest any possible tweaks or additions to the sites, such as a membership link.

Meeting adjourned at 9:22 PM.

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

Mark Dahlman

**Next Meeting Date:** June 11 **Meeting Time:** 7:45-9:00pm

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

#### **May 14th Meeting:**

Thanks again to Mr. Luzier for sharing his expertise with us. At the May meeting, Mr. Luzier showed us examples of fossils, their labels, and how fossils are cataloged. We also got to see FRA members' own specimens, labels, and catalogs. It was great to see each FRA member's carefully curated collections. This was the final Collecting badge activity needed for five FRA members—congratulations to Isabella, Colin, Luke, Nicole, and Kaylee! Isabella also completed the activities for the Earth Processes badge. This means that we now have two new Rockhounds—congratulations to Colin and Isabella for earning this prestigious award!

*Continued on page 6*



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

*Continued from page 5*

### **June 11th Meeting:**

We'll start our June meeting by presenting badges...and two Rockhound awards! We'll continue to work on the Earth Resources badge. To complete this badge, each member needs to do activity 2.3: "Build a collection of everyday objects and minerals that went into them – e.g., galena and a fishing weight, fluorite and toothpaste, copper and/or sphalerite, zincite, or willemite and a penny." There are many internet sources, such as <https://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2000/0144/>, that can help with this activity. We'll work on activity 2.2: "Write a report or make a poster about at least 10 rock and mineral products in your home or in a particular room in your home: your bedroom, bathroom, kitchen, living room, etc." at the meeting. We'll also have our door prize drawings as usual. It should be a good meeting—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.



**Congratulations to Jennifer for earning the Leadership Badge last meeting!**

*Photo courtesy of Chris Luzier*



Show Table for May 14th Regular Meeting

\*\* denotes self-collected

NAME	SPECIMEN	LOCALITY
Dave Hennessey	Clinozoisite	Hunting Hill Quarry, Rockville, MD
Jeff Cessna	Willemite Calcite Franklinite	Sterling Hill, NJ
Jeff Cessna	Quartz Crystals w/ Fluorescent inclusions	Pakistan
Germaine Broussard	Malachite	Liberia
Diane Leaman	Fluorite and Barite	Illinois
Gary Leaman	Ammonite	Morocco
Frances Becker	Fluorite?	China
Pam Ogasawara	Volcanic rocks and limbcasts	Hawaii/Oregon
Ken Reynolds	Hardystonite combos	Franklin, NJ Superdig
Mira Lottes	Manganocalcite	China
Joel Rosen	Fluorapatite	Harding Mine, Taos County, NM
Dave Fryauff	Beta-Quartz	Dal'negorsk, Russia
Nancy Shinowara	Quartz w/ Muscovite w/ reddish inclusions	Afghanistan
George Durland	Rhodonite w/ Franklinite, Garnet in Calcite	Franklin, NJ
	McGovernite on Ore and Calcite	Sterling Hill, Ogdensburg, NJ
	Willemite (white fibrous) on Ore	Franklin, NJ
	Sodalite var. Hackmanite	Koksha Valley, Badakshan prov., Afghanistan
Steven Parker	Prehnite	Vulcan Manassas

Door Prizes:

**General Door Prize:** *Dendrite Agate from Mexico*

Won by Dave Fryauff

**Show Table Door Prize:** *Chalcedony on Blue Lace Agate from Malawi, Africa*

Won by Mira Lottes



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## Field Trip Announcement

Dave Fryauff

### **HK Peachbottom Quarry Trip: Saturday, June 9th from 8 AM to 12 PM**

Dear all,

Announcing an invitation for GLMSMC members to join the Southern Maryland club for a field trip this Saturday to the HK Penn-MD Materials Quarry at 303 Quarry Rd., Peachbottom, Lancaster Co., PA!

Full standard safety gear is required: regulation helmet, eye protection, and steel toes.

Last year (Dec. 2nd, 2017), our HK host, James Lang, allowed kids under 15 only with full safety gear and a parent present. I am assuming the same rule holds for this field trip as well, but you should check with our Southern Maryland coordinator, Dave Lines at <dave.lines@earthlink.net> to ask about bringing kids to this quarry.

Remember to bring your statement of personal assumption of risks, signed and dated with you in case the quarry wants to see or collect a copy.

The HK Penn-MD Quarry, with 14 valid mineral species, and the Cedar Hill Quarry, with 31 valid mineral species, are located back-to-back and should probably have virtually the same rock and mineral composition. Both are quarrying hard, green serpentinite rock for use as aggregate and both sit squarely within the "State Line Chromite District," where historically America's earliest chrome mining was done. Lapidarists find the serpentinite deposit rich in green serpentine subgroup minerals such as antigorite and lizardite. Some of these minerals have a very nice translucent green color and hardness quality similar to jade. Williamsite is the name coined for a nice apple-green variety of antigorite that cuts and polishes very nicely, often showing flecks of black chromite throughout. Please let me know by this Thursday (June 7th) evening if you intend to participate in this invitational field trip.

Cheers,  
Dave Fryauff





## A Recent Picture of Interest

Olivia Luzier

At the Mineralogical Society of the District of Columbia's regular meeting on May 2, 2018, the Presidents of four D.C.-area mineral clubs came together, including Ken Reynolds (GLMSMC), Bob Cooke (Northern Virginia), Denise Nelson (GLMSDC), and Dave Nanney (MSDC). Denise also presented her program, "Poland's Treasures: Amber and Salt," at this meeting.

*Special thanks to Betty Thompson and Ken Reynolds for supplying the photo!*



***From left: Ken Reynolds, Bob Cooke, Denise Nelson, and Dave Nanney.***

*Photo courtesy of Betty Thompson*



## Quarry Operations Brief Overview

Sam Linton

I found that a lot of hounders don't know much about quarry operations, so I wanted to provide a basic overview.

Quarries usually work downward. As they do, about every 40' of depth, a new floor will be established. Each time a new floor is created, it creates a bench out of the previous floor's level... quarries end up looking like a bowl with numerous levels. This is called benching (see Picture 1). Picture shows a new floor being created.

To move material out, quarries blast the rock to break it up. Usually 30-50, 6" diameter holes will be made in a grid pattern and filled with explosives (see Picture 2). The tubes sticking out of the ground are thick cardboard liners for the holes to prevent collapse. Ammonium nitrate fuel oil (ANFO) is poured into the tubes, which are then set off in a specific sequence of explosions that focuses on breaking up the material to roughly the size they want AND keeping it within a specific area. Power shovels (see Picture 3) scoop that material into the ore trucks, which haul it to the crusher for processing. If a scoop is full of rocks that are generally too large, they dump it onto a grizzly. [A grizzly is a ~9' tall metal contraption that has square grids on the top to allow small rock to pass through, while keeping larger ones on top. Anything too big (usually 2' diameter) will be broken up with a breaker (see Picture 4—this one has a flat headed tip while some have narrow chisel tips)]. The breaker functions like a jack hammer. They can also drive around to break up large rocks in place. The whole process keeps repeating until the floor gets fully expanded to the walls and then a new floor is started.



Picture 1: Benching



Picture 2: Drill



Picture 3: Power Shovel



Picture 4: Breaker

Pictures courtesy of Sam Linton



## Upcoming Shows

### **The Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Society Auction!!**

**Date:** Friday, June, 8th, 2018

**Time:** 7:30 pm (viewing at 7:00 PM)

**Place:** Westchester Community Center  
2414 Westchester Ave., Oella Md.21043

Gemstones, Cutting rough, Jewelry, Minerals, Fossils, Books,  
Magazines, and Lapidary Equipment

Refreshments are also available.

**Directions:**

*From the north:*

Take I-695 to US 40 west (exit 15B). Turn left on N. Rolling Rd. Turn right at Old Fredrick Rd. (You will pass through 1 roundabout). Turn right on Oella Ave. Turn left on Westchester Ave. Westchester Community Center is on the right.

*From the south:*

Take I-695 to Fredrick Rd. (exit 13). Turn left on Fredrick Rd. Follow Fredrick Rd. approx. 2.7 miles. Turn right on Oella Ave. Turn left on Westchester Ave. Westchester Community Center is on the right.

**Need a map? You can find one on our web site.**

<[chesapeakegemandmineral.org](http://chesapeakegemandmineral.org)>



Upcoming Shows (Cont'd)

**1st Annual South Jersey  
Gem, Jewelry, Mineral & Fossil Show**

**Date:** October 13 – 14, 2018

**Location:** 1721 Springdale Road Cherry Hill, NJ 08054

**Show Times:** Saturday (10am-6pm) & Sunday (10am-5pm)

**Website:** [www.sjmineralshow.com](http://www.sjmineralshow.com)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/sjmineralshow](http://www.facebook.com/sjmineralshow)

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** – Ken Reynolds

**Vice President** – Steven Calamuci

**Secretary** – Karen Lottes

**Treasurer** – Holly McNeil

**Field Trip Chairman** – Dave Fryauff

**Membership Chairman** – Doug Baum

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**Upstairs Showchair** – Dave Tiktinsky

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**Immediate Past President** – Jonathan Harris

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**Bulletin Editor**– Olivia Luzier

**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](mailto:editor@glmsmc.com).

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EFMLS, AFMS



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