



The Rockhounder

May 2019

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 June issue of The Rockhounder to Editor Olivia Luzier at editor@glmsmc.com by Monday, May 27, 2019.

Regular Meeting Announcements

Steven Calamuci, Vice President

May Speaker Information:

Speaker: Casper Voogt

Title of Talk: “Trilobites of the West Virginia Area”

This month's speaker shall be our own Casper Voogt, who has given us some wonderful presentations on his mineral collecting travels outside of our country. This time, he will be sharing his field collecting experiences in our country, on the search for trilobites! Casper displayed a wonderful case of trilobites at our annual March Show. We have also had some requests to have a fossil presenter in for a talk, especially for the area's trilobite locales. There are many locales in West Virginia and Pennsylvania that are an easy drive from our area as well. There are dozens of species of trilobites and it is quite difficult to find one in perfect shape after fossilization. Casper has done much work on carefully excavating these fragile and beautiful creatures from their rocky tombs, which was evident in his display case. There was one example in particular that he self-collected and then proceeded to liberate from the matrix that is amazing. Come and see this fascinating presentation on local area fossil specimens and the collection of these ancient creatures!

Respectfully submitted by Chris Luzier

Next Regular Meeting:

Date: Monday, May 13, 2019
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: Rockville Senior Center
1150 Carnation Drive
Rockville, MD

Next Board of Directors Meeting:

The Board of Directors will meet at **7:30 PM on Monday, May 20, 2019** at the home of Holly Heighes. Board members are expected to be there. Any member is welcome to come, but please let Holly know if you plan to attend.

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President's Message

Ken Reynolds

Hello Rockhounds and welcome to the month of May! Please be sure to attend this month's meeting tomorrow, May 13th, as we welcome member Casper Voogt, who will give a presentation on Trilobites. Casper has been building his trilobite collection and actively collecting the fossilized creatures in West Virginia. His knowledge of trilobites, along with the work of cleaning and procuring his self-collected specimens, are sure to impress!

For my message this month, I want to tell you about my recent trip (April 27-28) to Franklin, New Jersey, for the DVESS's Annual Superdigg at the Franklin Mineral Museum! As many of you know, I'm a Franklin mineral collector and this place is very close my heart!

I started my voyage that Friday morning and arrived in Franklin at the Littell Center, the site of the 47th Annual N.J. Earth Science Association Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show and Outdoor Swap. Here I set up my display of "Daylight" Franklin and Sterling Hill classics. As many of you know, Franklin is the fluorescent capital of the world, but many of you don't know that the Franklin and Sterling Hill Mines have some of the most unique and colorful minerals in the world!

The next day, I arrived at the Franklin Mineral Museum at 7:30 AM for registration and check-in. I signed up for 2 sessions of digging on the "Mill Site" pile. Sessions were 3 hours each and I signed up for the first from 9-12 and the third from 4-7 PM. Many of our own GLMSMC members were present and I really enjoyed having the chance to collect with them! **(See my pictures of collecting with other members on page 3.)**

I was fortunate to find some nice specimens of Hardystonite and Clinohedrite, some of Franklin's rarities. I also found a nice piece of Microcline and Meionite, which I learned is not very rare, but nonetheless a quite beautiful fluorescent mineral combo.

On Sunday, I spent most of the day at the Franklin Mineral Show. I planned to sell minerals at the outdoor swap, but unfortunately, the rain pretty much wiped out the outdoor sales. I was still able to make a few sales to friends and a few purchases as well. For the show and tell at May's meeting, I plan to bring a couple!

After the show was over, it was time for the take-down. As many of you know from our Montgomery show, this is a lot of work and all done by volunteers. Fortunately, we had a nice group to help with the take-down. We loaded everything up and took it to the Sterling Hill Mining Museum to be tucked away until the fall show. Afterwards, a group of us went to dinner for a very fitting end to the weekend!

Don't forget to attend our May 13 meeting. Hope to see you there!!

Rock on,
Ken Reynolds
President

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President's Message

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GLMSMC Board Meeting Minutes from April 18, 2019

Karen Lottes

PRESENT: Karen, Holly, Doug, Ken, Joel, Dave T, Jonathan, Chris, Gary, Dave F

The meeting called to order at 7:38 PM.

TAXES: Holly filed the federal taxes and annual report.

SHOW WRAP-UP: Most of the meeting related to last month's annual show.

DEALERS: We managed to recover most of the money for Caveny's booth following his van fire, because we were able to rent the tables at the last minute to Casper and the opal dealer, Ethiopian Gems. Some discussion on how we can tweak the table layout to add a dealer space.

Moved that we refund Caveny his full amount. Seconded. Passed.

Attendance was down a little this year. There was some discussion on possible reasons why. Some ideas were shared for promotion of the show next year.

ADMISSIONS & HOSPITALITY: New technology at admissions and the door prizes had mixed success, as there were some glitches and some of the volunteers were more comfortable than others using it. The door prize registration required more interaction between the volunteers and the visitors (with the volunteers giving more explanations), but there was general agreement that this was probably a good thing. The raffle made more money than usual, which could be because hospitality was more interactive with the door prize registration. We also need to remove the "Don't contact me" question on the door prize form.

We also got a request as to whether we could allow 4H in for reduced admission like we do for Boy Scouts.

Move that we allow 4H members in uniform or with membership card in free as we do with the scouts. Seconded. Passed.

LAPIDARY SHOP: Set-up went well and we were very organized when packing up, so it should go even better next year. We were able to move people through faster, so we didn't have the long lines and were able to serve more people. There were some concerns that people weren't looking at the

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GLMSMC Board Meeting Minutes from April 18, 2019

Karen Lottes

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disclaimer when signing up. We do need to tweak the signage and have the height requirement moved to be more visible. We had a lot of the pre-forms pop off, but we think it's because we had a lot of "found" pre-forms and the wax was old. We need to phase out the red wax and also consider scheduling a class on making preforms. Alana took the vests and goggles home and cleaned them.

WIRING: Joel had a lot of help with the wiring. Frank Roddy and Rod Busby are almost to where they don't need instruction. Jeff Cessna did a great job upstairs and Jered was also helpful. We also now have the exact number of extension cords that we need.

MEMBERSHIP: Doug sent out an updated membership roster.

TRAILER: Joel discovered a leak in the trailer when unloading for the show and some of the vents aren't properly caulked, so Jonathan volunteered to help re-caulk.

Moved to purchase three tubes of silicone caulk to repair the trailer. Seconded. Passed.

FIELD TRIPS: Dave has the following field trips lined up:

- March 30 – Vulcan Manassas
- May 29 – Mt. Pleasant Mills and Middleburg Quarry
- Working on a trip to Sanders Warrenton Quarry

The Head of JMU is interested in re-instituting open houses for local groups.

MAY SPEAKER: Gary has been in contact with the goldpanners, Ken will look into a fossil speaker, and Kathy Hrechka would be good for a talk on microminerals. We should also have a small auction.

MEETING COURTESY: Holly pointed out that people have been having side conversations during the show table and it's hard to hear the people speaking. Joel will give a courtesy reminder.

JMU has sent a thank you letter for our annual donation to them.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.



GLMSMC Regular Meeting Minutes from April 8, 2019

Karen Lottes

The meeting was called to order at 7:43 PM.

To accommodate our speaker, the presentation took place before the meeting.

SPEAKER: Mike Wise with his wonderful talk, "Pegmatites: Earth's Most Amazing Rocks!"

Pegmatites rarely occur as an isolated body; they usually occur in clusters in a well-defined area. They are found globally and are a great source of collectible materials and gem minerals, especially rare gems, though usually, they are not of gem quality. The most common minerals are beryl, topaz, tourmaline, spessartine, and spodumene. Industrial minerals are also common, such as quartz, muscovite, feldspar, and granite. Pegmatites do contain a diverse mineralogy—over 600 different minerals have been found in pegmatites. The big difference in minerals found in pegmatites versus those found in granite is that pegmatites have variable grain sizes within the same body as well as variable mineral chemistry, greater texture, and a greater chance to find rare minerals.

MEETING MINUTES: Welcome back to Mary Beth Mason, wife of Chuck Mason, who rejoined after taking a break from the club! Welcome to new member Dawn Morales!

MINUTES: *Moved to accept the minutes from March. Passed.*

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 PM.



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

Mark Dahlman

Next Meeting Date: May 13th

Meeting Time: 7:45-9:00pm

Meeting Location: Sunroom Cafeteria at the Rockville Senior Center

April 8th Meeting:

Thanks to Nancy DeMulder for speaking to the FRA about jewelry making—it was very inspirational to hear and see many ideas for creating a piece of jewelry! We also started a piece of jewelry ourselves and will complete the pieces at our May meeting. Thanks to our friend and benefactor in New Mexico, Patrick Haynes, everyone went home with new mineral specimens too.

May 13th Meeting:

Thanks to the work our members did with show exhibits, we'll start the meeting by awarding a couple of Showmanship badges. Then we'll continue working on the Lapidary Arts badge by completing the projects we started at our April meeting. If you've created a work of lapidary art, please bring it to our meeting. If you are working on one and it's reasonable to transport, please bring your work in progress (or pictures of it). As always, we'll have door prizes to give away too. 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.



Show Table for March 11th Regular Meeting

** denotes self-collected

NAME	SPECIMEN	LOCALITY
Jeff Cessna	Kyanite(FL red)	Barra de Salinas, Brazil
" "	Bustamite	Franklin, NJ
Ken Reynolds	McGovernite	Sterling Hill Mine, NJ
" "	Corundum	Buckwheat Dump, NJ
Gary Leaman	Amethyst & Quartz	Uruguay
Diane Leaman	Eudialyte/Sodalite	Russia
Karen Lottes	Aragonite	Mexico
Reed Owens	Wernerite	Quebec, Canada
Mira Lottes	Emerald	China
Holly Heighes	Fluorite	Mongolia (Gobi Desert)
Dave Hennessey	Willemite/Bustamite Calcite & Franklinite	Franklin, NJ
Doug Baum	Chrysocolla/Malachite	Katanga Province, Congo
Richard Ernst	Pseudomorphs of Glauberite	**Arizona
Jonathan Harris	Rhodonite	Franklin, NJ.
" "	Beryl/Spessartine in Pegmatite	**Kemp Mill, MD
Herbert Close Jr.	Black Tourmaline & Emerald	Little Switzerland, NC
Alana Hulse	Amethyst & Aquamarine?	Unknown
Dave Fryauff	Petedunnite	Franklin, NJ
Lyle Peterson	Malachite	Zaire
King Stablein	Lapis Lazuli	Afghanistan
Casper Voogt	Smoky Quartz (Gwindel)	Switzerland
Chuck Mason	Petrified Wood	Madagascar
Mary Beth Mason	Jade Toad	Kensington Apothecary

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Show Table for March 11th Regular Meeting

** denotes self-collected

Continued from page 8

NAME	SPECIMEN	LOCALITY
Barb Burr	Calcite	Flemmingsburg, KY
Joel Rosen	Ocean Jasper Sphere	Madagascar
Imelda Rocha	Eudialyte medallion & Bloodstone necklace	India
George Durland	Zircon	Northern Territory, Australia

Door Prizes

Show Table: Kambaba Jasper, Madagascar

Won by Karen Lottes

General: Pyrite, Huanzola Mine, Huánuco Dept., Peru

Won by Herb Close



Field Trip News

Dave Fryauff

We have several field trips planned for this summer:

- 1) **Sat. May 18th is the Sanders Warrenton Quarry from 8-11 AM:** The address is 5485 Afton Lane, Warrenton, VA 20187. Plan to arrive at 7:30. Parking outside the gate is super tight, so press together as close as possible if the gate is not open yet, because there is no parking along the road and traffic is fast. Leave one lane open for quarry manager to get in. Very tough quarry with limited amount of crystallization; it's best for micro collectors. There are sparse pockets 1-3" in diameter, mostly of calcite and aragonite. I found one piece of prehnite... 6x4x4" rock that I broke apart to discover 2 small sphalerite crystals. Actinolite is present, usually in crumbly nodules and iron stained massive clumps, though I did find a nice bladed piece of the 30 or so I can across.
(Text courtesy of Sam Linton.)
- 2) **Sat. June 1st is the Vulcan Manassas Quarry:** This is an invitational extended to us by our friends in the SoMD club. Please be there at 7:15 AM, we'll be out at 11:45 AM. Meet at the Vulcan Manassas Quarry office parking lot at 8537 Vulcan Lane, Manassas, VA. Children age 10 with full standard safety gear and parent are permitted. Standard safety gear means shatter-proof eye protection, helmet, steel toes, and long pants. Safety vest, gloves, water, sunscreen are all advised. Bring the signed, dated waiver with you when you show up and be prepared to give it to our host, Mr. KT Odem.
- 3) **Sat. June 8th is the Vulcan Stafford Quarry:** Meet at the office parking lot of the Vulcan Stafford Quarry at 100 Vulcan Quarry Rd., Stafford, VA. Adults only and collecting only on piles arranged on the floor of the quarry; no berm collecting. Standard safety gear means shatter-proof eye protection, helmet, steel toes, and long pants. Safety vest, gloves, water, sunscreen are all advised. Bring the signed, dated waiver with you when you show up and be prepared to give it to our Vulcan Stafford host. We are out at 11:45 AM. Make sure you label your tools and take home everything you came with.
- 4) **Sat. June 29th is the National Limestone Middleburg Quarry, followed by the Mount Pleasant Mills Quarry for the rest of the day:** Please be at the Middleburg office at 8:30 AM. Meet at the office parking lot of National Limestone Quarry #1, at 3499 Quarry Road, Middleburg, PA 17842. We will sign in and get a safety brief from our host, Mr. Eric Stihl, and will work this quarry for 2 hours, then go over to National Limestone Quarry #2 at 217 Quarry Rd, Mount Pleasant Mills, PA 17853. Children age 10 with full standard safety gear and parent are permitted. Standard safety gear means shatter-proof eye protection, helmet, steel toes, and long pants. Safety vest, gloves, water, sunscreen are all advised. Bring the signed, dated waiver with you when you show up and be prepared to give it to our Vulcan Stafford host.

Cheers,

Dave Fryauff



Vulcan Manassas Quarry March 30, 2019 Field Trip Report with Pictures

Dave Fryauff

We kicked off the new year with a well-attended field trip to the Vulcan Manassas Quarry. We had a beautiful day and over 25 people show up at 7:30 am with their signed and dated waivers, rules, and standard safety gear. Our host, Mr. KT Odem, took us down to the 6th bench and from there, collectors spread out in every direction. I took interest in some vuggy rock that gave me several small specimens of mordenite, chabazite, calcite, and pyrite. I think there might also be a tiny book of hematite in one of these vugs. The mordenite resembles spiky white puff balls and is so soft and lightly attached to the rock that I ruined several specimens trying to break the rock down from bowling ball to hand size. There was also some interesting fine grained pink and olive green feldspar rock at this site that some of us took home for possible lapidary work; cabs or spheres might turn out well.

The 6th bench inside berm looked about the same as it did when we visited here last fall, so I shifted over to the outside berm and found a collection of large (room-size) boulders that hosted fine druzy crystals of what we all thought was calcite. A small chisel was perfect for harvesting some of this stuff, which came off mostly in small micro and thumbnail sized pieces. Under the loupe, it was a collection of opaque white calcite rhombs sitting on top of a mixture of sparkling clear stilbite and apophyllite crystals. It was dirty with road dust, but it cleaned up well. I was surprised that the calcite crystals lit up well—bright white—under both short and long wave UV. This is the first time I had seen calcite from the Manassas quarry fluoresce white; all my other finds over the years had been pale yellow or orange, but only under short wave UV. I looked up from chiseling that calcite and saw a huge boulder with lots of crystals glinting in the sunlight, but it was 11:45 and there was not enough time to do anything except take a few photos.

Some of us gathered at the quarry office to compare notes and Dave Hennessey found some nice prehnite to investigate. On close examination, it looked like some other flaky mineral coating some of the prehnite...this turned out to be individual snowflake-like crystals of prehnite and flat, tiny black babingtonite xls coated on top and bottom with fine silvery-white actinolite hairs. This was the first time in all my trips to the Vulcan Manassas Quarry that I had ever seen babingtonite. Tiny but still way too coool! I think I've been at least 10 times to Vulcan Manassas quarry and someone asked me why I/we keep going back. There have been lean times and rich times, but always something new and worth discovering.

See a few photos from this field trip on page 12. Apologies for the UV photo of the calcite, shot in the dark with one shaking hand while I was holding the UV lamp with the other. Photography tips

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Vulcan Manassas Quarry March 30, 2019 Field Trip Report with Pictures

Dave Fryauff

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are welcome!

Demand was so great that National Limestone Quarries #1 (Middleburg) & #2 (Mount Pleasant Mills) were booked solid through April, May, and virtually all of June. We are lucky to get Saturday, June 29th, starting at 9 am, at the Middleburg Quarry office.

Have fun out there, collect hard, and be smart, courteous, and careful.

Cheers,

Dave Fryauff





Upcoming Shows

Living Estate Auction

Date: Friday, June 14th, 2019

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

Place:

Westchester Community Center
2414 Westchester Ave., Oella Md.21043

Refreshments are 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>



Upcoming Shows

With this ad, \$1.00 off General Admission

2019

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Lebanon Valley Expo Center
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www.gem-show.com
(see website for updates)
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If you are planning a trip and want to know what clubs you might be able to visit, it would be worthwhile to visit the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies website. Check out their newsletter archives at <http://www.amfed.org/news/default.htm>.





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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



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