



The Rockhounder

June 2024

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-August issue of The Rockhounder to Editor Olivia Luzier at editor@glmsmc.com by Monday, July 15th, 2024.

Regular Meeting Announcements

Heather Vineyard, Vice President

June Speaker Information

Speaker: Chris Luzier

Title of Talk: “The Franklin & Sterling Hill Mines, New Jersey— There’s a Reason They are World Famous!”

The presentation will focus on the fluorescent minerals of the district, but will also detail the multitude of other reasons why they have been famous for decades and will remain so.

Christopher Luzier has been a lifelong collector of minerals and fossils. He is active in the region’s gem, mineral, and fossil societies. He has served on the Board of the Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Montgomery County, MD as President, Vice President, and has been the Downstairs Showchair for almost eight years. He has provided many exhibits and presentations for a variety of organizations and educational institutions. He specializes in fossils and minerals of the Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey areas, including the fluorescent minerals from the world-famous mines of the Franklin and Sterling Hill mineral district in

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Next Regular Meeting:

Date: May 13th, 2024

Time: 7:30 PM

Place:

Rockville Senior Center,
1150 Carnation Drive, Rockville, MD

Next Board of Directors Meeting:

Date: TBD

Time: 7:30 PM

Place:

Virtual (online Zoom meeting)

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June Speaker Information (Cont'd)

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the Franklin, NJ region. He is a presenter on megalodon, shark teeth, and other fossil marine fauna of the Calvert Cliffs Miocene epoch. Mr. Luzier was also one of the founding members of the fossil group at the Natural History Society of Maryland.

His most recent published work was in the Spring 2023 issue of the classic publication, *The Picking Table Journal*, that has specialized in Franklin-Sterling Hill minerals since the 1960s. This article focused on a rare and forgotten mineral species, cuspidine, from Franklin, NJ. It was discovered in 1899, but then was lost to time for almost 100 years, as no new specimens were located. The original grains of cuspidine that were tested were discarded at the time, hence what Franklin cuspidine looked like was completely unknown.

The article detailed how cuspidine was discovered, rediscovered, and the exciting prospect that it can still be found today. Because of the scarcity of the material, Mr. Luzier requested submissions for photographs and history of individual specimens from other collectors and museums with known examples of cuspidine. This process took 4-1/2 years to complete with visits to collections, photography, and grouping of various cuspidine finds, stories and the people behind them. In the end, multiple collectors came forward, along with the Franklin Mineral Museum and the Smithsonian Institution as well. All provided specimens and much individual history that also tied back to the 1899 discovery at Franklin. The final publication includes seventy-eight beautiful photographs and is the most comprehensive study of cuspidine to date.



GLMSMC Regular Meeting from May 13, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 PM by Andy. The motion to accept the Regular Meeting minutes for March and both the Regular and Board Meeting minutes for April was seconded and passed.

Membership: Doug moved to accept Dan as a new member, Wendy as a returning member, and Sam as a new member. All were voted in. Doug also announced that he still has many unclaimed name badges.

FRA: 12 FRA members completed the Gold Panning and Prospecting badge. Caitlin and Maria were there to receive theirs.

Show Announcement: There are free passes for the Howard County Gem and Mineral Show on June 8 and 9 from Greg.

Field Trips: Working on a trip to Millville Quarry. It will be a small group because the space to collect is small.

Trailer: Joel announced that they have investigated the trailer because of water found when it was unloaded for the show. There will need to be a time arranged to seal it. If anyone wants to help, let him know. The spare trailer may also have issues. Gary will investigate and report back.

Program: "Mineral-Security Nexus" from Thomas Hale

The talk was about minerals, their uses for future technology, and how the US is behind on these issues. Climate goals are pushing the discussion, but to be at net zero emissions by 2050, we would have to be mining more than six times what is currently produced. 54% of all new projects are on or near Indigenous communities or watersheds, making them ecologically tenuous.

Minerals are important for national security, human security, and energy security. If you can't grow it, you have to mine it. If the minerals aren't where you are, they have to be imported. But there is a lot of risk to the planet and to people. Environmental impact and political insecurity are all concerns.

The meeting adjourned at 9:39 PM.

Submitted by Karen Lottes as Acting Secretary



BOD Meeting Minutes from May 20, 2024

The meeting commenced at 7:30 PM. Present were Jonathan Harris, Andy Celmer, Doug Baum, Joel Rosen, Dan Kohn, Karen Lottes, Diane Leaman, Gary Leaman, Dave Tiktinsky, and non-board member Patricia Cronin as acting secretary.

Fall Picnic and Auction: Discussion was held about the date for the fall picnic. Due to online discrepancies, the date of the Franklin (NJ) Gem and Mineral Show is uncertain. It is either the next-to-last weekend in September or the last. Chris and Ken, who were absent tonight, will be consulted for the correct date. Our picnic will use the other date. Mention was made of an auction at the picnic, but no decision was made. Many members are storing parts of collections or leftovers from previous auctions and wish to move them on to new homes.

Membership: Membership Chairman Doug Baum reports that both adult and youth membership are up from last year. The kids are earning lots of badges, many of which have not yet been claimed. Joel suggested a bulletin board or display be made and brought to each meeting to remind them to claim their badges. Doug will set up a TikTok account to attract younger adults. Our Facebook page has over 600 members.

Property: Property Manager Joel will set up a meeting with Chris and the other volunteers about the trailer.

EFMLS: EFMLS is still opposed to remote voting for a club president.

Other Committees: No other committees had reports to share.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Cronin, Acting Secretary



Show Table from May 13th Regular Meeting

Chris Luzier

Name	Specimen	Locale
Steve Calamuci	Pyrite pseudomorphs after Anhydrite & Calcite	Missouri
Maria Nopo	Calcite & Fluorite	Ancash, Peru
Greg Pappas	Ruby w/ Zoisite	Madagascar
Rick Roffeld	Citrine	Brazil
Corrine Wilson	Stellerite	Manassas, VA
" "	Pyrite & Calcite	Howard Co., MD
Gary Leaman	Amethyst Geode	Brazil
Diane Leaman	Flower Agate	Madagascar
Doug Baum	Andradite Garnet	Arizona
Tom Parnell	Wolframite var. Ferberite/ Heubernite	Various
" "	Rutile	Graves Mountain
Reed Owens	Geode	Unknown
Mango Vaz	Pyrophyllite	Silver Ridge, NC
Marco Molinaro	Chalcopyrite	Millville, WV
Bennie Krause	Ketherapsis trilobite	Morocco
" "	Fairy Stones	Virginia
Joel Rosen	Barite & Quartz	China
Pat Repik-Byrne	Pyritized Selenite crystal	China
Steve Hatleberg	Crocoite(30x magnifying glass)	Tasmania

Show Table Door Prize

Celestite/Apophyllite

India

Won by Maria Nopo

General Door Prize

Pendant

Won by Bennie Krause



Future Rockhounds of America (The MOCKS) Ages 9-16

Mark Dahlman

Next Meeting Date: June 10th **Meeting Time:** 7:45-9:00 PM

Meeting Location: Sunroom Cafeteria at the Rockville Senior Center

May 13th Meeting:

We started the May meeting by awarding Gold Panning and Prospecting badges to FRA members in attendance– congratulations to all who have earned the badge! To begin the Maps badge, Mr. Margolis gave an excellent lesson about the information shown on geological maps, including how they are made and used. He brought large paper examples– a scarce resource these days – and showed the group a geologist’s compass and spoke about how it’s used as well. Thank you for the excellent presentation, Mr. Margolis!

June 10th Meeting:

We will complete the activities for the Maps badge at our June meeting and decide on the next badge to work on after the summer break. We’ll have badges to hand out at the beginning of the meeting for those who have earned them but haven’t picked them up yet, and of course there will be door prizes to hand out at the end of the 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.

Follow us on Facebook at

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

[groups/984241208329511/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/984241208329511/)



Field Trip Pictures

Recent pictures from Pipsico field trip

Courtesy of Sam Linton



Calcite



Goethite



Goethite



Calcite



Upcoming Shows

7/27/2024 - 7/28/2024

LIMAGS ANNUAL JULY MINERAL & GEM SHOW

7/27/2024 - 7/28/2024

10:00 - 5:00

<http://www.limineralandgeology.com/LiMags/Home.html>

15125 Main Rd

Mattituck - Cutchogue Sr/Jr High School

MATTITUCK, NY, 11952



With this ad, \$1.00 off General Admission

GEM MINER'S SPRING SHOW!!
June 8 - 9, 2024
W. FRIENDSHIP, MD
**Beads! Findings!
Minerals! Fossils!
Gems & Jewelry!**

THE MID-ATLANTIC'S BEST SHOW
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
RETAIL & WHOLESALE VENDORS
WHOLESALE ONLY TRADE AREA
HOURLY DOOR PRIZES & GRAND PRIZE DRAWING
SATURDAY: 10 A.M. - 5 P.M. ❖ SUNDAY: 11 A.M. - 4 P.M.
\$6 ADMISSION - CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE

Howard County Fairgrounds
2210 Fairgrounds Road
West Friendship, MD 21794
www.gem-show.com
(see website for updates)
(301) 807-9745





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Not currently filled

Vice President – Heather Vineyard

Secretary – Jeff Cessna

Treasurer – Jonathan Harris

Membership Chairman – Doug Baum

Downstairs Showchair – Chris Luzier

Upstairs Showchair – Dave Tiktinsky

Property Manager – Joel Rosen

EFMLS Liaison – Andy Celmer

At Large Board Members – Ken Reynolds, Karen Lottes, Gary Leaman, Dan Kohn

NON-BOARD POSITIONS

Field Trip Chairman – Sam Linton

Immediate Past President – Holly Heighes

Bulletin Editor – Olivia Luzier

Life Members: Larry Harrison, Juan Proaño, George Durland, and Holly Heighes

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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