



THE ROCKHOUNDER

March 2025

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 April issue of the Rockhoulder to Editor Maria Nopo at bulletineditor@glmsmc.com by March 28th.

Regular Meeting Announcements

Heather Vineyard, Vice President

March Meeting Information

Speaker: Fred Paraskevoudakis

Title of Talk: New Images and Videos from The Silver Mines of Lavrion, Greece

Abstract: This lecture will be a second part to January's lecture, and will cover other locations in the myriad of the mine tunnels not previously shown. Surface mining began as early as 3000 years ago in the ancient site of Thorikos adjacent to Lavrion. With more intensive mining, starting around 600 BC., the silver mines at Lavrion yielded an enormous wealth both monetarily and in diversity of mineral species. There will be a brief overview of the ancient sites where this all began mentioning the historical importance, and then focus on the modern day mines which began in 1865 and ran strong until 1976. Today, visitors to the small town of Lavrion can see two, small but wonderful, museums packed with incredible mineral collections, that also showcase some of the old mining history and equipment. The presentation will include numerous slides and videos from the most recent trips (2023- '24) inside the mine shafts, and reveal the stunning mineral wealth that still lies inside.

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Next Regular Meeting

Date: March 10th, 2025

Time: 7:30 PM

Place: Rockville Senior Center
1150 Carnation Drive, Rockville, MD

Next Board of Directors Meeting

(There is no board meeting for March since we have the show.)

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March Meeting Information

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Lavrion is perhaps the richest site in the world, after Tsumeb, Namibia, with 672 (Mindat) cataloged mineral species and continues to be a scientific destination for Geologists and Mineralogists.

Biosketch: Fred Paraskevoudakis (Paras) is a professor at Baltimore City Community College where he has taught mostly Microbiology, some Biotechnology and Environmental Science, since 1992. His education includes two BS, two MS degrees (Environmental science, Molecular Bio) and PhD work in Science Education. His interests in Natural History stem from his childhood in the tropics where he collected butterflies and shells, hobbies which he continues today with his own large scientific collections. These interests have been pursued through extensive travels in many countries on all continents of the world. Fred is the president of the Maryland Entomological Society and longtime member of the Natural History Society of Md. where he is the curator of the shell collection. Although he had a rudimentary interest in fossils and minerals growing up, he became very active in these areas in the last 10 years.

President's Message

Chris Luzier, President

Good day to you GLMSMC Members--

We are once again on the doorstep of our annual mineral show and we appreciate all of your volunteer efforts and help! We are still needing many volunteers in the kid's Mini-Mine section, as it has abundant vacancies and this is not a good thing... Please check my most recent members email out and sign-up ahead of the meeting on March 10th. Thanks very much in advance!

I also just went to the first show on the East Coast gem & mineral show circuit, provided by the Delaware Mineral Society this past Saturday. The show was excellent as always and has about the same attendance levels as our show. It was an excellent show with wonderful displays, activities and dealers. Attendance was down though from years' past, as we have also experienced in the last few years as well. We really need to keep our promotion up with posting and telling our own individual connections about our show. Thanks so much again for all of your help in this and we look forward to having another excellent show and March meeting.

Speaking of that, we have an excellent presentation again from Fred Paraskevoudakis(Paras) that is second part of his Lavrion, Greece presentation! This was one of our most popular presentations as it is loaded with embedded videos of the mine with talks by the geologist guides underground, showing all the magnificent copper minerals covering the walls!!! It was unbelievable to see up close and Fred says that the second part is even better! Don't miss this meeting on March 10th...



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GLMSMC Regular Meeting Minutes from February 10th, 2025

Jeff Cessna, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President Chris Luzier at 7:45 pm. There were approximately 41 adults and 5 juniors in attendance, including lifetime member Holly Heighes. It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the 13 January 2025 Regular meeting and of the 20 January 2025 Board of Directors Meeting.

Announcements: Chris Luzier welcomed everyone to the meeting. Chris discussed a new order of Andy Muir commemorative t-shirts, available in two new colors. He took orders so the shirts could be distributed at the March meeting in advance of the show.

Show: Chris provided an update on the upcoming show. Exhibit cases were still needed. Forms were available to fill out and would be distributed. Volunteer sign-up sheets were distributed. Many positions were filled, but the mini miners' section had openings. A cabochon demonstrator slot needed to be filled. Advertising and promotion online are needed from members. Joel Rosen thanked those who had signed up for set-up and take-down. He emphasized we could use more volunteers. The food vendor has been coordinated. Those members setting up display cases must have their cases set-up by 6:00 PM. At that point the downstairs will be closed to allow members to get a good sleep before the show. It is a good practice to organize the display at home in advance in order to speed set-up at the show.

Membership: Membership chair Doug Baum thanked those who had already paid their dues. He invited those who were unsure to stop by and check. It was M/S/P to accept the membership applications of Charlie (a past club president), Stephen, Fred, and Adrian.

Treasurer: Jonathan Harris reported that the state and federal tax forms had been filed. The insurance has been paid.

Program: Chris introduced our speaker for the evening, James Hall. James has a long association with the club, including a display award in 1977. The presentation was entitled "Collecting at the Reel Mine, Iron Station, NC." James began with the story of a collecting trip spurred on by the news of the imminent sale of the Reel Mine. As the collecting passed week to week the sale never occurred. Eventually his enthusiasm caught the attention of the owner, who was now without a buyer. A quick, unexpected, negotiation resulted in an agreement neither could refuse. Since that time James has worked the mine thoughtfully and carefully by hand. Trips to Tucson sparked interest and visits by museum scientists to study the deposit. He described the geology of the mine and the signs that can be read to search for the pockets containing the amethyst crystals the mine is known for. He gave a specific example of an 8ft long pocket that held at its lower end a spectacular specimen on matrix. The specimen was carefully removed and now graces the lobby of a museum in Arizona.

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GLSMC Regular Meeting Minutes from February 10th, 2025

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James answered many questions from the interested audience and showed the tools he uses, like an electric jackhammer and a diamond chain saw along with marvelous examples of what can be found at the mine. Thanks, James and a special thanks to Colleen for assisting and providing cake for the members to enjoy!

The door prize was administered by Joel Rosen.

Adjournment: It was M/S/P to adjourn the meeting at 9:43 PM.

GLSMC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes from February 17th, 2025

Jeff Cessna, Secretary

Meeting began at 8:03 pm (*new start time will be 8:00, instead of 7:30 pm*)

Present were-- Board Members present were: Jonathan Harris, Doug Baum, Heather Vineyard, Gary Leaman, Karen Lottes, Dan Kohn, Andy Celmer, Joel Rosen, and Chris Luzier. Editor: Maria Nopo. Guest present: Diane Leaman.

We discussed the show promotion and the social media component of that. Karen and Doug mentioned that we needed to post the show as an event on Facebook. Then people could share their pics after that as well or could send them to Doug or Karen for posting them. Karen will be added as an Administrator as well, and volunteered to create the event and upload it. Heather also mentioned that she would be able to post on Instagram the week prior to the show as well. Chris said that he would be heading to the Delaware Show as well and would make sure that they had plenty of show flyers too.

Chris brought up the approval of the 2025 budget that needed to be done, after email discussion a few weeks ago. It was motioned "to keep the donations in the 2024 calendar year, since they were Board approved at that time, with a footnote in the 2025 budget noting that they were paid out in 2025, and pass the 2025 budget after this notation." This was then seconded, voted on, and passed unanimously by the Board.

Joel discussed the trailer and that he would schedule the service to replace the tires, the week before the show with the tire shop in Poolesville where Chris and Joel had gotten a quote back in the Fall. Jonathan can give Joel a check for the tire shop at the March 10th meeting for the new tires and work. Joel also mentioned that Bill W. who tows the trailer for us to the Fairgrounds, is retiring. He has another farmer that he has coordinated with to take over the towing. They will take care of getting the trailer to the tire shop and to the Fairgrounds as well. Next year we will use the new farmer to take over that task.

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GLSMSC Regular Meeting Minutes from February 10th, 2025

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Chris also mentioned that we need more volunteers for the Kid's section and maybe a few more Exhibitor cases as well. Demonstrator's are all ready to go as well. We then had an impromptu discussion about how many of our members had gone to the Tucson Show this year, including many of the people in the Board meeting! It was a nice swapping of stories and specimen tales, along with Smithsonian personalities as well, that were at the biggest mineral show on Earth!

It was also asked to move the Board meeting time to 8:00 pm as it is much easier for Jonathan to be there at that time and a few others as well. Chris asked if that was okay for everyone for the time change, and that was accepted by the members present.

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 pm

Minutes taken on behalf of Jeff Cessna, respectfully submitted by Chris Luzier.

Show Table from February 10th Regular Meeting

Name	Specimen	Locale
Jeff Cessna	Green Sphalerite	Franklin, NJ.
" "	Willemite, Calcite	Sterling Hill Mine, NJ.
Tom Parnell	Amethyst	Ellis Mine - Due West, SC.
Dan Baker	Seam Agate	New Mexico
Doug Baum	Picasso Stone	Utah
Rick Roffeld	Fluorite	Franklin
Marco Molinaro	Antigorite & Chromite	Penn/MD. Quarry
Joel Rosen	Amethyst	Brazil
Dave Fryauff	Fluorapophyllite	Malad Quarry - India
Jonathan Harris	Fluorites	Cave-In-Rock, IL.
" "	Tanzanite	Merelani Hills, Tanzania
Samuel Tereyuk	Quartz Crystal Cluster	Herkimer
Steven Calamuci	Copper	Kazakhstan
Pat Repik-Byrne	Amethyst w/ Iron included Calcite	Brazil
Germaine Broussard	Odd assorted stuff	Various

Show Table Door Prize

Polished Rock
Won by Pat Repik-Byrne

General Door Prize

Polished Agates
Won by Mango Vaz



March 2025

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

Mark Dahlman

Next Meeting Date: March 10th **Meeting Time:** 7:45-9:00 pm

Meeting Location: Sunroom Cafeteria at the Rockville Senior Center

February 10th Meeting:

FRA members received their Fluorescent Mineral badges to start our February meeting – congratulations to our awardees! We completed fluorescent sand art projects as well. We collected fossils that FRA members are displaying in our group exhibit, and Chris Luzier discussed the Lillian Turner award criteria with the attendees – thanks Mr. Luzier!

March 10th Meeting:

Please remember to bring the fossil(s) you'd like to include in the group exhibit if you haven't already! We'll go over good labeling practices for the Collecting badge and talk about how to start a catalog of your collection. Of course, everyone will go home with a new specimen for their collection. I hope to 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/)



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Happenings at the Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore



Several exciting classes have just been announced!

See the [Events and Classes](#) page to see the full calendar of offerings.



Questions about classes? Send us an email: classes@gemcuttersguild.com



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Upcoming Events

Retired Geologist and GLMSMC member, Sharon Lyon has started a free, weekly newsletter that highlights geology news, events, and everyday life. Please see the link below for more information.

[AAPG Newsletter](#)



59th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show

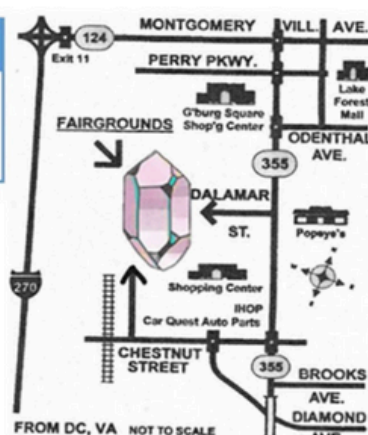
Date/Time: **March 15-16, 2025** Saturday 10-6 and Sunday 11-4

Location: **Montgomery County Fairgrounds; Building #6**
16 Chestnut St. Gaithersburg MD 20877

Featuring:

Hourly door prizes	20+ vendors of minerals, beads, fossils, gems, and jewelry
Gold panning	40+ exhibits by club members, including junior exhibits
Fluorescent minerals	Two floors of everything mineral related
Raffle prizes	Mini Mine, free minerals, and activities for children
Free parking	Demonstrations of faceting, micromineralogy, jewelry making, and physics

Children (11 and under) Free! Ages 12 and over \$7
Scouts in Uniform Free! 4H youth with 4H identification Free!
More info at: www.glmsmc.com



FROM DC, VA NOT TO SCALE

Show this flyer for
\$1 off admission price
(applies to each member in your group)

34th Annual Chesapeake Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show

Saturday, April 19, 2025 10 AM – 4 PM

Howard County Fairgrounds
2210 Fairgrounds Rd. West Friendship, Md 21794

Free Admission and Parking

Minerals, Original Jewelry, Fossils, Rough & Cut Gemstones
Silent Auctions, Door Prizes
Activities for Kids

www.chesapeakegemandmineral.org

Directions: From Baltimore take I-70 to Rt. 32 south; Turn right on Rt. 144 west Fairgrounds Road is half a mile on the right.

From Washington area – Routes 29 or 95 North to Rt. 32 west/north; turn left on Rt. 144 west-Fairgrounds road is a half of a mile on the right.



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - Chris Luzier

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 - Jonathan Harris

Bulletin Editor - Maria Nopo

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/>

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Award Winning Bulletin
EFMLS, AFMS



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