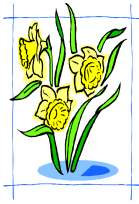


THE ROCKHOUNDER



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APRIL 2010

PURPOSE: 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”.

REGULAR MEETING: Meetings are held the 2nd Monday of the month from September to June. The Society will next meet on **Monday April 12th** in the dining room of the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, Rockville. The short business meeting will begin at 7:45 pm but the room is available to us at 7:30 pm so come early and chat with old friends and see what you and others have on the Show Table.

The program will be “**Blue Diamonds, Gems, Minerals, etc. – What’s New at the Smithsonian?**” presented by Dr. Jeffrey Post. Jeff, is a native of Wisconsin, received a BS in geology and chemistry from the University of WI, and a Ph.D. in chemistry, with a specialty in geochemistry, from AZ State University.

Prior to joining the Dep’t. of Mineral Sciences at the Smithsonian Institution in 1984, he was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow for three years in the Dep’t. of Geological Sciences at Harvard University. From 1989 to 1994, he was Chairman of the Dep’t. of Mineral Sciences, and since 1991 has served as Curator of the U.S. National Gem and Mineral Collection. Dr. Post served as the lead Curator for the Janet Annenberg Hooker Hall of Geology, Gems and Minerals that opened in 1997.

His areas of research interest include mineralogy, gemology, geochemistry, crystallography, and electron microscopy. He has published numerous scientific articles in these fields.



Photo by W. Mohr

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS will meet on **April 19th** at the home of Andy Muir at 7:30 pm. All Board members are expected to be there. Any member is welcome to attend but please let Andy know if you plan to attend (301 990 1370).

REINSTATED MEMBERS: Welcome back!

John Curry, 9503 Burgee Place, Frederick MD 21704-7842,
240 405 9670, e-mail: jjcurry9@yahoo.com.

Kellyn (2/03)

Bill Porter, P.O. Box 385, Rockville MD 20851-0385,
301 309 0509, e-mail oldcokes@aol.com.

Jason Millington, 1401 Woodbridge Road, Catonsville MD
21228-1120, 410 747 6276, e-mail fasterjason@yahoo.com

Jonathan Zimdars, 1900 Thames Street Unit 319, Baltimore MD
21231-3519, 414 573 1035, e-mail J.Zimdars@yahoo.com

SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS Your Society has designated cash prizes and Society membership to winners in the Science MONTGOMERY science fair held the weekend of our show. Watch for roster changes in next month’s issue along with more information when it is made available from winning participants.

DEADLINE for the May 2010 Rockhounder: April 26

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GLMSMC SHOW Thank You from Pat Repik-Byrne (Exhibits Chair/“Downstairs Chair”)

Many, many thanks to our Show chair, Mark Dahlman, and to all who participated in our 2010 Show and helped make it the finest ever. Mark arranged the venue, security, dealers, and many other very important details. More than 70 volunteers offered their time and talents to set up, take-down, and manage the many activities in the downstairs area, including admissions, hospitality, raffle, kids touch table/mini mine and shop. It was also inspiring to see several juniors (MOCKS) volunteering their time as well. Special thanks to Wendell Mohr and others who worked in advance to print and put up signs, and produced the beautiful certificates that were given to show exhibitors and demonstrators. Thanks also to George Durland for handling the publicity, and a very special thanks to Juan Proaño, Tom Parnell, and Jennifer Wingard who traveled from afar to volunteer their time and efforts. Joel Rosen deserves a commendation for arranging the bringing of the trailer to the show and for overseeing the electrical requirements. The “Bag Lady”, Jo Ann Mohr, again made up hundreds of bags for children’s give-aways.

The Show would not have been a success without the exhibitors, demonstrators and dealers who helped make it such memorable event. We exceeded previous shows in the numbers of exhibits and demonstrations that took place this year. There were 60 (yes count ‘em 60!) total exhibits, including a wonderful exhibit of Smithsonite by Dr. Jeffrey Post of Smithsonian Institution, and 5 very impressive exhibits by juniors Jimmy Cummins, Olivia Luzier, Savannah Muir, Jessica Simonoff, and Abbie and Elena Olshin. Jessica Simonoff, who is 11 years old, was the winner of the Turner Award (described separately in this newsletter). The exhibits ranged from gems and jewelry, to various types of minerals and found in various worldly locations, to the rock cycle, sands, fossils, impact crater, crystals and ever-amazing fluorescents. A memorial case by Wendell Mohr dedicated to GLMSMC members who had passed on was especially poignant. There were also 13 different demonstration activities organized by Bob Irby, Demonstrations Chair, which included faceting, jewelry making, fossils, flint-knapping, radioactive minerals, growing silver crystals, display and information on various uses of rocks. The cabochon-making activities in the Shop area under direction of Don Turner and the Fluorescent Tent exhibit/ demonstration area coordinated by George Durland were also big hits with attendees, as always.

Again, many thanks to our Show Chair and to all who gave of their time and effort to make the 2010 Show an incredible one.

Pat Repik-Byrne also needs not be humble for all the efforts she put in, including marshalling exhibit and demonstrator layouts, volunteers, exhibitors, demonstrators, and dealer identification tags, to name but a few. Her efforts were outstanding. Ed.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR PERSON We continue to be in desperate need of someone to serve as Membership Chair for 2010. Please rise to this opportunity to contribute to our Society. Our Membership Chair greets visitors, accepts applications from prospective members, collects dues, issues membership cards, and keeps records of our Society's enrollment. The person automatically becomes a member of the Board of Directors. **You** can do it. See Eric Kindahl and sign up!



Two collectors, one male, the other female, and relatively new at the Earth Science game got together on a regular basis, and they usually discussed families or local gossip. One day, they decided to change things a bit. They agreed that they would discuss important mineral localities like Afghanistan, Pakistan, the Koreas, and India etc. The guy said, “But what about Red China?” “Fantastic...” She responded, “it looks especially good on a white tablecloth!”

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The March 8, 2010 meeting was called to order by President Eric Kindahl at 7:39 pm, with approximately 61 people attending. It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2010 regular meeting, January 18, 2010 board meeting, and February 15, 2010 board meeting.

President: Eric noted we are still looking for a membership chair. He attended the Eastern Federation conference and had a program, including minutes of the last EFMLS meeting. He delivered the many rewards garnered by the Society and club members, including a prestigious trophy award for the newsletter editor, Wendell Mohr.

FRA: Holly McNeil presented a Fossil Badge to Jimmy Cummins, one of the original “MOCKS”.

Treasurer: Andy Muir briefly stopped spending money to give a report on club finances. Show expenses are paid, income from dealers is in, and we just need the income from admissions. Steve McNeil is auditing the club financial records, still in progress.

Editor: Wendell Mohr listed many upcoming shows, both near and far. Gemology and Advanced Gemology are available from Montgomery County, taught by club members. The applications were available for Wildacres, however Gerald Elgert reported the Spring Session is full.

Field Trips: Jonathan Harris dismissed the rumor that Manassas Quarry was closed by announcing a field trip there. We must fill our trips to make it worthwhile for the quarry employees to show up. Hunting Hill is now closed to all visitors due to an upper level management decision. There was discussion of whether VA miner certification would be valid in MD. Club members are welcome at the Morefield Mine where new material has been blasted.

Show (Exhibits/Demonstrations): Pat Repik-Byrne pleaded for more exhibits and volunteers. The lack of a February meeting has the numbers down. There were 34 exhibit applications compared to 55 last year. George urged all to participate and had flyers for distribution.



Presentation: Vice president Owen Powers introduced the speaker for the evening, Michael J. Colella. Michael presented “Suiseki – The Art of Viewing Stones.” Suiseki has a long history as far back as 200 years ago in China, Japan and Korea, with ties to religion, trade, the wealthy, and the ruling classes. We heard about the strict rules that govern the art. Michael has personalized the art allowing for stones that speak to him, but wouldn’t be allowed under the rules. We saw examples from his collection, each with their individually constructed wooden daiza (base). We also saw many wonderful photos. Take another look when you’re out and learn to see. Thanks Michael.



Photos by W. Mohr

Show: Mark Dahlman sent out 2,538 postcards. Don Turner needs more help in the shop and will train potential teachers. Mark reminded volunteers to sign in for their free admission the day they help. Every exhibitor gets a \$10 certificate to use at the show. Jack Busch reminded us to wear our name tags. Joel reported the club trailer with show supplies survived the winter.

Joel Rosen administered the drawings for the door prize and show table prize.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Jeff Cessna, Secretary.



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board members present: Jeff Cessna, Mark Dahlman, Jonathan Harris, Eric Kindahl, Wendell Mohr, Andy Muir, Owen Powers, Pat Repik-Byrne, Joel Rosen. Non-Board member present: Holly McNeil. President Eric Kindahl called the March 15, 2010 meeting to order at 7:34 pm.

President: Eric noted that it was nice to see the many award of club members at EFMLS.

Editor: Wendell reported member concerns about posting names and addresses as contained in past Rockhounder issues. The roster is not posted online. The specific instance has been removed. The board discussed opt-out boxes for the membership form. There is still no membership chair. Eric contacted some suggested people with no success. Bob Simonoff will put a "locally collected" display at the Rockville Science Day and is looking for display items or give-aways.

New members should be directed to the website for the Library list. Wendell has a list for Club historian with records we are required to maintain. For the show, Wendell updated the show flyer, reported on give-away bag progress, and reported demonstrators list from Irby.



FRA: Some of our participants may join the few local kids to have graduated a badge program. It was M/S/P to recognize the event, more details after the first occurrence.

Treasurer: Andy reported on the audit by Steve McNeil. After a few questions and clarifications, Steve delivered letter, fairly stated. Andy will prepare condensed report for Wendell. Andy fixed our tax ID number on the bank accounts. He delivered a net worth statement.

Vice President: Owen has a speaker for next month, will get bio from Wendell.

Property: With options discussed, junior door prize will continue when juniors are present. Joel will deliver a case to Elmer Friday to investigate construction options for replacement cases. Wendell delivered club lamps from Nancy Ballard. Joel bought new extension cords for show and has trailer ready. Lapidary machine needed base board replaced, perhaps all could use this. It was M/S/P for Joel to buy 2 lapidary and 2 fossil door prizes for \$200.

Field Trips: Jonathan discussed upcoming trip. He will investigate Hunting Hill options, if any.



Show Downstairs Chair: Pat reported exhibits are up to 59, including 11 Joe Murter cases, requiring more tables than last year. Pat will supervise case locations. We need more space for raffle jugs.

Show Chair: Mark will use floaters for selling tickets and working in shop. Rules for front desk were discussed for documentation. He gave Pat 2nd floor plan for back-up. A freelance photographer will be escorted by George. Mark sent 500 emails, Fairground sent 10,000. Many last minute details were discussed. Next year's dates are confirmed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 pm.

Jeff Cessna, Secretary

FIELD TRIPS

Saturday April 10 National Limestone Quarry, Mt. Pleasant Mills PA. Time: 9 am at the quarry office until when group leader has to leave. Age: Children must be accompanied by a parent. Parent must remain close to child at all times. Our host has requested that we have at least 6 people.

This is a great site for wavellite, strontianite, and more recently, variscite and turquoise. Collectors should bring a specimen from some other location for Eric Stahl, the manager of National Limestone Quarry.

Mt. Pleasant Mills is about 3 to 3.5 hours away, but it is worth it! Children 10 and older are permitted but a parent must stay near and supervise their children and leave the quarry with them if they get too restless to be safe.

RSVP by April 3. Call to see if late sign-ups can be taken. It is important that people who sign up on these and other trips attend.

Directions from Rockville: Take I-270 north to Frederick and go north on US 15. After Liverpool PA leave US 15 and take PA 104 to the intersection with PA 35. This will be Mount Pleasant Mills PA. From this junction, where there is a traffic light, go north on Route 104 about one-third of a mile and make the first left turn (Heister Valley Rd.) Proceed a little ways to the first left turn on this road (T369 may be called Flint Valley Road) and you are at the Quarry entrance on the right.



Jonathan G. Harris, Field Trip Chairman, Email (preferred) <jgharris7@gmail.com> or phone 301-545-0808.

EFMLS CONVENTION AND SHOW “A First Timer”

Wendell asked for an article on my experiences of being a delegate to the Eastern Federation convention held in Newark, Delaware March 5-7, 2010. This could be a short article because it was like spending a week at the Wildacres Workshops or even a GLMSMC meeting. If you don't know everyone who is present, you will, and all in the space of about five minutes. Everybody is just that friendly.



I was amazed to learn of the support the clubs within the Federation provide for education. Just one example is of two graduate students at Syracuse University in New York who are receiving scholarships in support of their research in geology and paleontology.

New officers for 2011 (the convention was very early in the year this year) were elected: President, Betsy Oberheim of the Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Club
First Vice President, R. J. Harris also with the Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Club
Secretary, Gerry Cox of Arlington VA, a member of the Northern Virginia Mineral Club
Assistant Treasurer, Michael Patterson, Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club
(Treasurer, Lou Budell, elected previously, continues as Treasurer)



What I enjoyed the most was attending the Editor's Breakfast and learning of the effort required in encouraging and supporting those who contribute to the publication of the various newsletters and web sites within our Federation. For their well spent time, I say, "Thanks to all." (See Page 11 for awards GLMSMC and its Members won—Ed.)

By Gerald Elgert, Delegate for GLMSMC

Photo by W. Mohr

SAFETY Snake Bite 101 by Owen Martin, AFMS Safety Chair March 2010

While researching details for this month's note I came across a great blog note from a gentleman named Steve Beyer who writes a blog for a website called "Singing To The Plants."

Much of one of his blog notes is contained below. With that being said we can break it down to three main points: stabilization, transportation and treatment. Of note at the bottom of the blog is mention of a "Pressure Wrap" which is a technique I've discussed in previous Safety Articles. Since most of us are more likely to encounter snakes in the field this method should be seriously considered in situations where emergency care is not immediately available.

Be safe, and now onto an excerpt from Steve's blog:

"As professional handlers of venomous snakes say, 'The best equipment for treating a venomous snakebite is a set of car keys.'

However, the first step in treatment is to avoid panic. Death is rare. Even without evacuation, most cases result in several days of serious misery and then full recovery. Remember that the fatality rate even for untreated pit viper bites is extremely low.

The treatment steps are:

- Use the Sawyer Extractor. If you are in snake country, the Extractor should always be within easy reach in your pack. The Extractor can remove as much as 30 percent of Crotalid venom proteins if applied within three minutes. Use the Extractor as quickly as possible and then keep it on the bite for about thirty minutes. Because of the great suction it creates, no cutting is necessary. This should always be the first thing you do, even when evacuation is in progress. [Keep in mind that certain areas of the south and southwest USA have snakes that have bites too wide for a single extractor so plan accordingly [Owen]

- Remove rings, bracelets, or any other constricting jewelry on the affected limb, which may swell to as much as twice its normal size.

- Immobilize the bitten extremity with a splint, just as you would a fracture.

- Have the patient rest and keep activity to a minimum.

- Have the patient drink as much fluid as possible, in frequent small amounts, in order to maintain fluid volume and kidney flow

- Remember that a snakebite is a contaminated puncture wound, and treat it as such.

- Get to definitive care as quickly as you can. Otherwise, have the patient rest and drink fluids; keep the wound clean; give lots of encouragement and support.

The following are **not** recommended for pit viper envenomations:

- Do not make incisions or try to suck out the venom. In jungle conditions, cutting into an already compromised limb is asking for an infection. You absolutely do not want pit viper venom in your mouth. Conversely, your mouth is full of all kinds of bacteria. And you can't suck as hard as the Extractor can anyway.

- Do not use a tourniquet. Tourniquets can result in loss of the limb due to decreased blood flow. In addition, you are just keeping the venom localized where it does the most tissue damage.

- Do not use electric shock. It can be dangerous, and has no proven value in managing pit viper bites. It is the great urban legend of wilderness first aid.

- Do not use ice. There is no evidence that snake venom enzyme activity diminishes with cold. Freezing already compromised tissue can lead to frostbite, which can damage the limb more than the original bite. Packing in ice has probably resulted in more lost limbs than snakebite itself; this is particularly tragic when limbs have been lost to frostbite because of a non-envenomated bite.

- Do not give alcohol. It causes vessels to dilate and may speed venom absorption. The use of an elastic bandage pressure wrap - recommended for use with bites from Elapidae or coral snakes - has been recommended for use in some cases of Crotalid envenomation as well. The argument against its use is that the pressure may actually increase the risk of disfiguring local tissue damage, which may then require skin grafts and extensive repair and treatment; and that removal of the pressure may result in sudden massive swelling and discoloration. The argument in favor of its use is that the spread of venom to vital organs can be life-threatening - in fact, some Crotalid bites can cause serious damage to limbs even when the bites were to a finger or foot - and the use of a pressure bandage can prevent this spread, even at the risk of greater localized damage.

The problem is that there is no way of knowing how serious the envenomation is at the outset, when the decision must be made. There is a tradeoff between averting more serious life-threatening damage and increasing the risk of painful and disfiguring local damage. Such a decision should be considered a serious one, to be decided in full consultation with the patient."

More can be found on Steve's blog site: <www.singingtotheplants.com/2009/03/jungle-survival-tips-snakebite-i/>.



JUNIORS FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS OF AMERICA **“The MOCKS”**

By Holly McNeil

CONGRATULATIONS TO: Jimmy Cummins, the first MOCKS member to earn the FRA fossil badge.

Due to cancellation of the February meeting we had some catching up to do in March and covered two “minerals of the month,” amethyst and aquamarine. We had a short, but lively debate on the “green amethyst” controversy.

Photo: W. Mohr ►



Our main meeting program covered plate tectonics. We reviewed the structure of the earth, worked through the theories and evidence behind plate tectonics and learned the major types of plate movements. In short, we increased our understanding of our ever-changing planet.

THANK YOU TO:

The Gallagher family who provided the supplies for the plate tectonics lecture, including the map used in the discussion and a device to demonstrate divergent and convergent plate movements.

Patrick Haynes and Jonathan Harris who both donated specimens to the FRA.

April 12 Get ready to rock! We start our three-part in-depth series on Igneous, Sedimentary and Metamorphic rock types, including their properties, formation and identification. The mineral of the month for April is diamond – samples will not be provided!

MOCKS AT THE SHOW

Members made significant contributions to our 2010 show.

Exhibitors: Abbie & Elena Olshin - The Hope Diamond
Jimmy Cummins - Marine Fossils

Volunteers: Trevor Babb, Jonathan Baum, Jimmy Cummins, Erin Gallagher, Ryan Gunnison, Abbie Olshin, Elena Olshin, Nolan Pepper. All the MOCKS volunteers did a great job overseeing the touch table, mini mine and junior quiz. Thanks for all your help and for loaning some of your parents to help out too! We couldn't have done it without you!

For more information on the Future Rockhounds of America program, please contact Holly McNeil at: <fra_advisor@glmsmc.com> or 301-605-7179.



SHOW TABLE: March 8, 2010 Thanks to those who bring items for sharing at the meetings.

<u>Exhibitor</u>	<u>Specimen (s)</u>	<u>Locality</u>
Doug Baum	Yellow Barite	China
Boe Brosius	Fluorite	Texas
	Quartz Agate Geode	Unknown
	Encyclopedia of Rocks & Minerals	
Stephen Campanella	Pegmatite (mostly) Amazonite*	Amelia VA
Jeff Cessna	Fluorapatite (fl)	Skardu, Pakistan
	Quartz Xl. (fl)	Herkimer NY
	Willemite/Calcite	Franklin NJ
Mark Dahlman	Floor Finds* (from dealer room floor)	2009 Show
Lawrence Davis	Amethyst, Smoky, & Skeletal Quartz*	Diamond Hill Mine, Antreville SC
George Durland	Fluorite	Clay Center OH
	Hardystonite, Clinohedrite, Willemite	Franklin NJ
Gerald Elgert	Serpentine*	Farmer's Mkt. Parking Lot, Lancaster PA
Chuck Hyland	Chrysanthemum Stone	China
	Calcite	Mexico
Eric Kindahl	Fossil Glass Sponges Hydnoceras species	
	Upper Devonian	Southern Tier NY
	Glass Sponges Recent Deep Ocean	Locality Unknown
Diane Leaman	Loellingite	Sterling Hill Mine, Ogdensburg NJ
Andy Muir	Hanksite	Searles Lake CA
	Pink Halite	Searles Lake CA
George Reimherr	Datolite xls. On Prehnite	Luck Stone Quarry, Bealton VA
Joel Rosen	Vanadinite	Mibladen, Morocco
Rod Towers	Microscope with specimens	

* = Self-collected or self made



MARCH DOOR PRIZES Jonathan Baum was the lucky junior to win the Quartz/Chalcopryite specimen. Stephen Campanella's number was drawn for the first show table prize, a green Willemite from Franklin NJ. In a second draw, Diane Leaman took home the Galena specimen from the Department of Pasco, Peru. Winner of the first general door prize, Fluorite with Quartz, from Pasto Bueno, Peru was someone whose signature was not readable! Lastly, Wendell Mohr took home the Agatized Geode, locality not given, the second general door prize. Owing to the over-abundance of the mineral ice, there had been no February drawings.

SHOW RAFFLE WINNERS

Lot # 1 Tom Parnell
 Lot # 2 Eric Durland
 Lot # 3 Eric Kindahl

}

It would appear that this year it paid to be a Society member and it helped to be named Eric. But where was Eric Thomsen?

ROCKVILLE SCIENCE DAY 2009

INVITATION TO EXHIBIT. Any volunteers to cooperate on an exhibit or demonstration on Sunday, April 26, 2009, Noon to 5 pm, at Montgomery College, Rockville Campus? It is an opportunity to educate young people as well as to enlist new people to membership in our Society. If you intend to participate, Contact Bob Simonoff, e-mail <Bob.Simonoff@jda.com> or phone 301 371 7503 . He and daughter, Jessica, will have a table which will feature a display case of some the local minerals they have collected. Jessica, you might remember, had a winning junior exhibit at our show (See below.)

THE LILLIAN TURNER AWARD

is a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond that is presented each year to a youth (below the age of 18) judged as having the best Junior Exhibit at the GLSMC Show. This year we had an amazing five junior entries in the show, the most in

recent history. All five entries were truly excellent, making selection a very difficult decision. But we are happy to announce that the winner of the Lillian Turner Award for 2010 is Jessica Simonoff for her exhibit entitled "Worldwide Minerals". Jessica's beautifully presented, tiered exhibit consisted of mineral specimens individually mounted on small plexi-glass platforms with white labels/black lettering, laid out on a grayish background. Additional "fun facts" about many of the specimens were splashed along the back and side walls of the case, both highlighting and reinforcing information about the minerals, thus making it a very interesting and memorable exhibit. Congratulations Jessica! Judges were Eric Kindahl, Mark Dahlman, and I.

By Pat Repik-Byrne



ROCKVILLE SCIENCE DAY

21st Annual

Sunday, April 25, Noon to 5:00 P.M.
Montgomery College, Rockville Campus
51 Mannakee Street, Rockville, MD 20850

FREE PARKING, FREE ADMISSION

Food Available from Kiwanis Club of Rockville

For more information and exhibitor list
www.rockvillescience.org
scienceday@rockvillescience.org
301-512-1278

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Building Careers in Science

USA SCIENCE EXHIBITION
2010

ROCKVILLE CONSORTIUM FOR SCIENCE, Inc.

SEPTEMBER AT WILDACRES Adapted from EFMLS News, by Steve Weinberger, Apr. '10

Ahh, September. After the winter many of us have had here on the east coast, September really sounds wonderful. The kids are back in school, and it's still warm enough outside to enjoy the fresh air. September at Wildacres is ideal. Days are pleasant and nights are comfortable. You can sit out on the porches late into the night and you can sleep with your bedroom windows open! Ideal.

Our September 6 -12 line-up at Wildacres is impressive. Our teacher line-up is outstanding and the only difficult part for you may well be deciding which class or classes to sign up for. Remember, if you request and are assigned to faceting, it's the only class you'll take during the week. If you request any of the others, you are assigned to two different classes for the week.

Do indicate your four choices for classes. This aids our registrar in case your first or second choice is already filled. We do limit our class size in order to maximize your learning experience.

Lisa Carp will be our speaker-in-residence. She will share a wealth of knowledge about jewelry with us. An excellent teacher in her own right, Lisa was nominated for the EFMLS Each One Teach One Award this year. You'll be amazed at what she has to share with us -- and she'll live on campus with us during the week as well.

Room and board for the entire week is \$350 per person. That includes fabulous meals in the dining room, access to the classes that you're assigned to, Lisa's six talks, an auction, fun night, tailgate and other fun things taking place during the week.

Why not get a few of your club friends together and plan a group journey to Wildacres this September? (Wendell Mohr has applications and class schedules).

April 24th ONLY: The World famous Sterling Hill Mine Super Dig, 30 Plant Street, Ogdensburg NJ, 07439, rain or shine, sponsored by the Delaware Valley Earth Science Society and Northeast Field Trip Alliance, in cooperation with the Sterling Hill Mining Museum. Guaranteed all fresh material excavated. 9 am to 11 pm. \$20 registration by check, \$21 by PayPal, plus Pound rate: \$1.50/pound. 5 to 12 year olds can dig in "Mine Run Dump" with an adult. 12 years and older can dig in the pits (preferably with an adult). Registration at <www.uvworld.org>. For payment by check, mail early. If for some reason you cannot complete the registration on-line by April 20th, noon, deadline, mail check for DVESS to P. O. Box 372, Maple Shade, NJ 08052 and mention that you have not registered on-line. Minimum 100 people required with a maximum of 200. (Mention that GLMSMC is covered by EFMLS liability insurance.)

April 24-25: 38th Annual NJ Earth Science Gem & Mineral Show (with outdoor swap) co-sponsored by the Franklin-Ogdensburg Mineralogical Society, New Jersey Earth Science Association, and the Sterling Hill Mining Museum. Franklin School, Franklin NJ.

April 24-25: Bead Society of Greater Washington's 51st Semi-Annual Bead Bazaar. Sat. 10am to 5pm, Sun. 11am to 5pm. Bead ID Sat and Sun Noon to 2pm. Activity Center, Bohrer Park, 506 S. Frederick Ave, Gaithersburg MD, off MD 355 at Education Blvd, Admission \$7.00, Children under 12 free.

May 29: Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Show, one day only 10am to 4pm at the Ruhl Armory, Towson MD. Free Admission. Take I-695, Baltimore Beltway, to exit 26, York Road South. Ruhl Armory is on the east side of York Rd. (across from a car dealer and funeral home [Get up and go!—Ed.]) just inside I-695.

Smithsonian Institution Exhibits in the National Museum of Natural History:

1. "Since Darwin: The Evolution of Evolution", Open through July 18th on the first floor.
2. "A Rare Encounter: The Hope & Wittelsbach-Graff Diamonds", Open through August 1st, 2nd floor.
3. David H. Koch Hall of Human Origins, newest permanent exhibition hall, 15,000-square-foot entered from the Sant Ocean Hall. Free admission, no tickets required. Free noon programs in the hall on Fridays, **April 30** and **May 28th**. See <<http://humanorigins.si.edu/exhibit>>.

Also of interest, see an 8 page article in the April issue of *Smithsonian Magazine* on "All American Monsters" about mastodons and Mammoths.

The Audubon Naturalist Society has Geology Hikes led by Joe Marx:

On Sat. **April 17th**, 9am to 2 pm, about the Geology of Great Falls VA.

On Sun. **May 2nd**, 9am to 1pm, about the Geology of Blockhouse Point Conservation Park.

On Sat. **July 10th**, 9am to noon, about the Geology of the Fall Zone.

Programs are \$25, \$23, and \$20 for members and \$35, \$32, and \$28 for non-members, respectively.

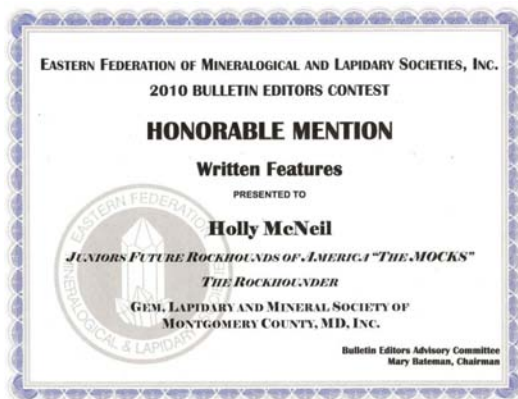
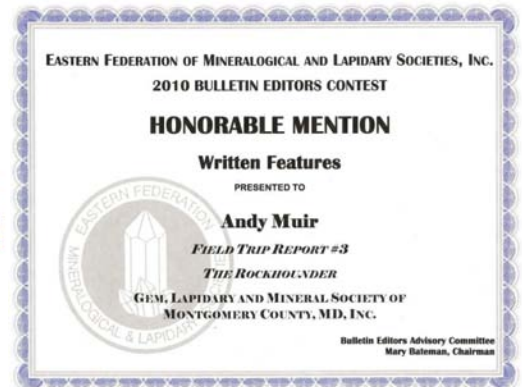
On Saturday **April 24th** they are offering a full-day field trip to Calvert Cliffs State Park led by Stephanie Mason. See fossils, birds, butterflies, dragonflies, and reptiles and amphibians. Members \$30, non-members \$42. Get the Spring and Summer 2010 Nature Activities For All Ages brochure at the Montgomery County library or call 301 652 9188, Extension 16. See <www.audubonnaturalist.org>.



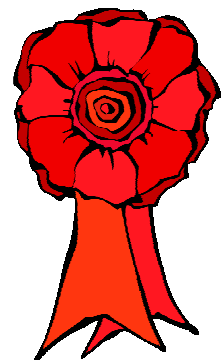
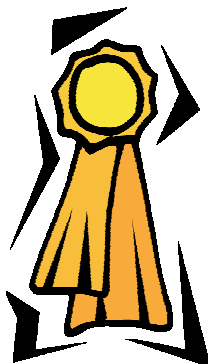
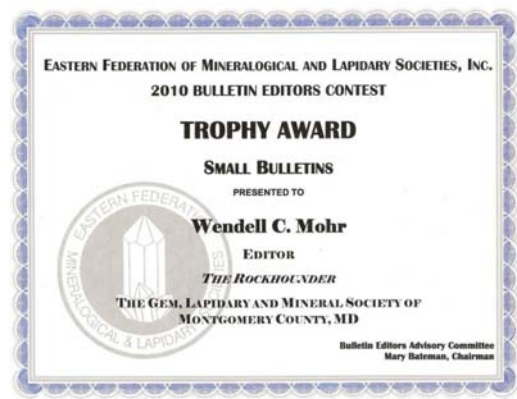
AWARDS RECEIVED AT THE EFMLS ANNUAL CONVENTION MARCH 5-7, 2009



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WEB SITES

By Webdell Mohr

Earth Magazine, at <<http://www.earthmagazine.org/>> is a product of The American Geological Institute. Included are magazines from September 2008 to present. You will find a wealth of information here. Wow! A great project for the many rainy days we seem to be having recently, check out Video-casts, Travel, Geomedia, Science and Society, Geology, Energy, and Environment. Formerly called *Geo Times*, click on "Archive" to reach magazines from 1996 to 2008.

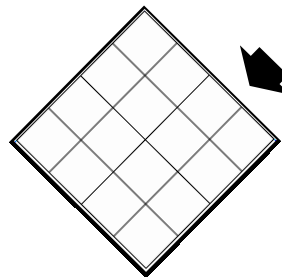
• The many magazines here reminds me of our library. It is one of the tallest buildings in town. It has many stories •

Bench Tips, by Alan Revere, Director of the Revere Academy of Jewelry Arts in San Francisco CA is at <<http://www.revereacademy.com/about/bench-tips/>>. See excerpts 101, 102+, and Old Bench Tips from his book, and also Green Jewelry Tips. As is our custom, we do not endorse commercial enterprises. See his video tour and explore other nooks and crannies. The site is well illustrated. Thanks to Lap Talk News, March 2010 for the lead on this one.



• A woman decided to have her portrait painted. She told the artist "Paint me with diamond earrings, a diamond necklace, emerald bracelets, a ruby brooch, and gold Rolex." "But you are not wearing any of those things" replied the artist. "I know," she said. "It's in case I should die before my husband. I'm sure he will remarry right away, and I want his new wife to go crazy looking for the jewelry." •

Argyle Diamond Mine in Australia, <<http://www.argylediamonds.com>>, is the web site of their mining operation. I think you will find it interesting despite a dated video about underground mining. Exploration began in 1972, with mining commencing in 1983. They are famous for the Argyle pink stones. See geology, history, open pit mining, underground mine, processing, rough diamonds, and selecting a diamond. Noodle around to a gallery of photos and the video gallery. Diamonds "are a girl's best friend" and the April birthstone.



A Matched Set of Diamonds.

The Queen of Diamonds Among her Friends.

**APRIL MEMBER BIRTHDAYS:**

Kevin Babb, Tom Cummins, Elsie Durland,
Beth Hilkemeyer, Quinn Hunter, Sierra Hunter,
Alexander McDonald, Melissa McDonald, Michele
McMurtry, Jason Millington, Earl "Eric" Smith,
Virginia Vance, Robert Weiss.



There was a young miner named Fisher
Who was digging for gems in a fissure,
A rival, with a grin.
Pushed the avid miner in...
Now they're searching the fissure for Fisher.

Jonathan Harris reports that:
Billy saw some dynamite;
Couldn't understand it, quite.
But curiosity never pays;
It rained Johnny for seven days.

SOCIETY HISTORY**BY JACK BUSCH**

MORE OF 1995 - First, a couple of carry-overs of April events which for lack of space were omitted last month.

On the 29th the United States Geological Survey, USGS, held an Open House, about which Bob Irby reported he had been so busy demonstrating gold panning that he had no time to look at any of the other exhibits, even though Jack Nelson, Paul Smith, and Charles Zellers assisted him. According to Bob's report, 7 1/2 ounces of pure gold had been mixed with sand along with other heavy metals, and the mixture put into children's wading pools. Although exhibit visitors were encouraged to try their hands at panning, they were not permitted to keep any gold they "caught." I doubt USGS would repeat such an event now, considering the current price of an ounce of aurum.

On the following day, Jack Nelson (who really had to be nimble in order to change venues so quickly), Anna Marcus, and Lauren Archer were at Rockville Science Day at the Montgomery College Rockville campus shepherding an exhibit of Maryland minerals and answering questions about the hobby and the Society. This was the second year we participated in the event (and we were invited to return in 1996.) Our crew reported that the day was a rainy one there was a very large crowd attending, many of whom expressed great interest in our exhibit. Several joined in May.

A field trip to Hanover Quarry in Pennsylvania caused Field Trip Chair Terry Cirrincione to become rhapsodic about the site. I quote: "The quarry was stupendous, overwhelming, and challenging—and it was the largest I've ever been in!" She went on to describe all manner of calcite crystals found in addition to hematite and dolomite.

I know there was a meeting in June because the July/August Rockhoulder included a list of Show Table exhibitors the night of June 12th, but diligent search failed to locate any Minutes of what had transpired. Suffice it to say there had been a meeting with at least 14 persons attending, the aforementioned Show Table exhibitors.

Numerous field trips were selected to places including Chesapeake Beach Estates Maryland, Romney Stone Quarry West Virginia, Dutchman Gemboree Pennsylvania, and Rutherford Mine, Virginia, making a busy season for those with the time to wander.

Though Spring 2010 is here, it will be Fall 1995 when I return.

ROSTER CHANGES

Donald Greaves' preferred e-mail is dgreaves2@verizon.net.

Pat Repik-Byrne e-mail prb.rocks@verizon.net

Dan and Eve Spielman e-mail eve@goeaston.net

Louis and Therese Van Rafelghem, e-mail vanrafelghem@comcast.net

Michael and Donna Gallagher and children: delete children's names, family address, phone, and e-mail

CLASSES Information at 301 297 4575.

Clearwater Nature Center in Cosca Regional Park is offering a class in wire wrapping Saturday April 10th 9:30am to 4:30pm. For ages 16 & up, the fee is \$40 for residents of Montgomery or Prince Georges Counties and \$48 for others. An additional \$12 material kit fee is due at the start of class.

They also have a cabochon gem cutting basics course for ages 18 & up. Fee is \$30 R, \$36 NR. It runs from 9:00am to 3:00pm. Bring safety glasses and apron

The Patuxent Lapidary Guild has ongoing classes. Chain Maille Copper Bracelet and Lost Wax Casting are current offerings. Details, dates and costs are given.

See the web site <<http://www.greencavedesigns.com/plgj/>>

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Wendell Mohr, Charlotte Morrison, Juan Proaño, Dan Spielman, and Paul Vance

Society Address: Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Montgomery County MD., Inc.

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