

November 6 program: “Evolution of the 3.2 Ga Lewisian Gneiss Complex: a Mineralogical Perspective” with Dr. George Guice of the Smithsonian

Our November 6 presentation will focus on mineralogical aspects of studies of the Lewisian Gneiss Complex (LGC) in northwest Scotland. Our presenter, Dr. George Guice, earned his Ph.D. earlier this year from the University of Cardiff, studying Archaean ultramafic rocks in Scotland and South Africa. He spent over 4 months in northwest Scotland conducting fieldwork, and co- led the 2018 “Granulites” conference field-trip in the region. George is currently a Peter Buck Postdoctoral Fellow at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History.

George’s talk will briefly outline the historical significance of the region, before summarizing the magmatic and metamorphic evolution of the LGC from a mineralogical perspective. Amongst other things, we will consider what we learn from the zircon, garnets, olivine, and pyroxene in this gneiss complex.

Want to come with us in taking George to dinner? Meet on November 6th at 6:00 pm at the Elephant and Castle at 1201 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. If you cannot make it to dinner, please go directly to the lobby of the Natural History museum (Constitution Avenue entrance) at 7:30 pm. We will head upstairs to the Cathy Kerby Room at 7:45 pm for George’s presentation. Thanks to VP Yury Kalish for all this info!

Sharing Time – by Dave Hennessey

Let’s go without a theme for sharing time this month. Bring in whatever you want to share with your fellow club members for whatever reason you want to share it. Bring it in because it’s beautiful, or interesting, or unusual, or amazing, or ugly, or unidentified, or the circumstance of collecting it make for a fun story. I am reminded of a young boy at a mineral show who showed me his fossil trilobite, telling me it was 500 million and 2 years old. I asked him how he knew how old it was so precisely. He told me that a paleontologist identified it for him and told him it was 500 million years old, and that was 2 years ago.