



*The Mineralogical Society of the
District of Columbia*



THE MINERAL MINUTES

Vol. 75, No. 8 Founded 1942 October 2016

- October's Meeting is Wednesday, 5 October. We will be meeting at 7:45pm in the lobby of the Museum of Natural History. Dinner at the Elephant and Castle at 6pm for those interested in dining beforehand.

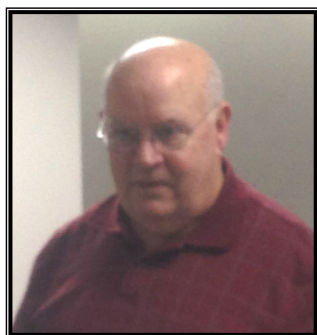
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Prez Says...

By David Nanney,
MSDC President

I'm writing this on the last day of summer. It's been a hot year, with a record number of days in the 90+ range. I have been instructed by our professors to highlight the difference between weather, what's happening now, and climate, what's happening over time. All this gardener can say is that it has been HOT.



Leslie and I visited Seattle, Portland, and Anchorage during our recent journeys. While visiting family in Alaska, we returned to a mineral shop in Anchorage named Natures Jewels. The previous owner, Joe Turnbow, has retired to Arizona. We met Joe five years ago when we visited with a young relative who was in possession of an unopened geode. Joe took the time to suit him up in safety gear, put him in front of a rock saw, and let him discover the beauty hidden inside. My relative will never forget the excitement of the discover that day, a proclaimed "DIAMOND!!!". I will never forget the kindness of Joe taking the time to share the joys of our hobby.

Which brings me to my point for this month. First I want to thank Kathy Hrechka for her excellent talk on Diamonds. In addition, Kathy serves as a docent at the Natural History Museum, continuing this theme of sharing her knowledge and joy with others. Sheryl Sims has given talks at elementary schools on her growing knowledge of minerals. It's a common theme, demonstrated across our group of friends. So I would encourage all of us, first to share what you know, and show what you have. Let others see the same beauty we all find in nature. And then invite a friend to come with you to one of our meetings. They might just find out, as

October's Program – "Living with a (Growing) Mineral Collection"

Presented by Charlie Berry

Why do we come to the Cathy Kerby Room on the first Wednesday evening of each month, rain or shine, month after month, year after year? In a nutshell, we are mineral collectors – a unique breed that finds minerals to be beautiful and interesting, with their variety of crystal forms, color, pattern, luster, etc. We come to learn things about them. How they form. Where they form. Their special properties. We talk about "Geology in the News" and collecting opportunities. We talk about museum collections we have visited, books we have read, and upcoming mineral shows where opportunities to acquire even more mineral specimens will be found. We bring in specimens we have collected or acquired to show them to each other and brag a little. Bottom line, we find

we did ten years ago, what a nice group of people we are and return as members themselves.

We are looking forward to this month's talk by Charlie Berry on Living with a Growing Mineral Collection. Charlie scouted MSDC during our September meeting and is coming back for his talk in October so we must have passed muster. Join us in welcoming Charlie at dinner prior to the meeting at the Elephant and Castle at 6PM, Wednesday, October 5, followed by his talk at the Natural History Museum at 7:30 in the Constitution Ave. lobby entrance.

the beauty, the history, and the science of minerals to be fascinating and we come to the meeting each month to connect with others of our own kind.

Our presenter this month is Mr. Charlie Berry, whose fascination with minerals has led him to build a magnificent (and still growing) collection of minerals. After a 30+ year career with Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC) working on NASA and other federal government contracts, Charlie retired in 2010. He has degrees in physics and astrophysics and a keen interest in mineralogy and geology. Like many of us, Charlie's fascination with minerals began in grade school, went into hibernation for a time, and re-emerged in adulthood.

Charlie's collection includes ~3900 specimens from 1500 to 1600 worldwide localities. In addition to minerals, the

collection includes fossils and meteorites, some cut stones, and several works of lapidary art. Charlie's presentation will share observations from years of collecting and will feature many of the most interesting specimens and other items in the collection. Every mineral specimen has a story to tell. Come hear their stories.

Please join us in taking Charlie to dinner on October 5th before the club meeting. We will be meeting at 6:00 pm at Elephant & Castle Restaurant, 1201 Pennsylvania

Minutes of the Business Meeting of September 2016

Andy Thompson, Secretary

Business Meeting Synopsis for 7 September 2016

President Dave Nanney warmly welcomed everyone, especially guests Laura Dwyer, David Tiktinsky, Andrew Lacy, Sandy Robertson and Charlie Berry (who will be our presenter at the October meeting). He also thanked attending past MSDC presidents for their prior service to the club.

Given the upcoming 15th anniversary of the events of September 11th, Dave led a discussion of the nation's experiences that day, especially what he and Susan personally witnessed. They called attention to the heroism of the first responders as well as the dedicated Pentagon workers who returned to their desks the very next day and carried on their necessary responsibilities. The attendees then observed a few moments of respectful silence.

Dave called attention to several resources for mineralogy and highlighted

Ave, NW, Washington, DC, about 2 blocks from the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) where our club meeting is held. If you cannot make it to dinner, we will meet in the NMNH lobby at 7:30 pm (Constitution Avenue-side lobby) from which we will head up to the Cathy Kerby Room for Kathy's presentation.

Robert Hazen's 2013 excellent book, *The Story of Earth: The First 4.5 Billion Years, from Stardust to Living Planet*.

Report on MSDC's Finances - Treasurer John Weidner provided attendees with a handout of the financial report. He noted that MSDC terminated its use of the rented P.O. box due to lack of sufficient use. John's home address is the new site to send membership checks.

Report on the MSDC website - Dave called on Andy Thompson who stood in for the club's co-webmaster, Betty Thompson, who was at a different meeting. Recently the site crashed, possibly due to hackers or to an older platform. Casper Voogt, the other co-webmaster, quickly re-established the MSDC site on a very current platform, but he had to use an older version of the website in this process (Feb. 2016). Also, Casper generously is moving the site to his own server so in the future we will not need to pay for that service. Betty will learn the new platform software, restore substantial Spring 2016 improvements, and make new improvements as possible. Betty invited members to critically review the site

in its current state and provide her with feedback on its content, structure and any improvements they would like to suggest for the site. A handout summarized all this information. Members called attention to the fact that Casper had already posted on line the recently published September MSDC newsletter, Mineral Minutes.

Report on updating of By-Laws – Committee Chairperson Leslie Nanney described the plan for the Board of Directors to review the updated articles during the next Board meeting. That revision will then be presented to the membership at the December business meeting for finalization and a vote.

Report on Board elections – Dave noted that Susan Fisher will be completing her term of office as Director and he called for candidates to step forward so a vote can take place at the December meeting. Dave then thanked Susie, Ken and Susan for providing snacks for the September meeting. The October meeting's snacks will be provided for by volunteers Alyssa, Leslie and Andy.

Members noted that 15 October 2016, Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Smithsonian Natural History Museum will

September Program Synopsis: “”

Presented by Kathy Hrechka
Synopsis by Andy Thompson, Secretary

MSDC member Kathy Hrechka treated members by sharing her decades-long passion for learning about and collecting micro sized diamond specimens. Her program, “Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend”, began with the recognition that several mineralogical mentors encouraged

celebrate National Fossil Day. Visitors will have the opportunity to participate in family-friendly, fossil-themed activities presented by volunteers and fossil scientists who work with the museum, the National Park Service, and other partner agencies and organizations. For more information, see:

<http://naturalhistory.si.edu/calEvents/one-time-events.asp>

The Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral club member, Carole Raucheisen, through Erich Grundel, asked that any MSDC member who wanted to make a presentation to her club should contact her directly: caroleal@verizon.net. The club meets in the general area of Clinton, Maryland, near Andrews Air Force base. For more information see:

<http://www.smrmc.org/>

Dave Nanney then called for a motion to close the business meeting portion of the program, which Ed Fisher immediately seconded. All voiced approval and Dave then called on MSDC's Vice President and Program Chair, David Hennessey to introduce the evening's presenter..

her focus on this area which brought her to learn about diamond mines, collecting sites and museums around the world where diamonds are prominently displayed. She also provided background on the geologic formation of diamonds and showed pictures

of her diverse finds from over 25 sites and several continents.

While discussing diamonds' typical formation at a depth of about 150 kilometers (90 miles), she brought out several interesting facts. A schematic drawing of a kimberlite pipe illustrated volcanic activity and its associated magma flow, the source of diamond's transportation from the upper mantle toward the earth's surface. Yet, Kathy noted, only about 20% of diamonds are found in such sites while 80% are found in alluvial sites, having been carried away from their original pipe by erosive activity. A graphic of the earth's continents illustrated that practically no such kimberlite pipes are found on the South American continent. Yet some diamonds have been found in alluvial deposits in Brazil and a few other locations. Discussion also brought out that along with kimberlite, there is a second mineral, less popularly known source for finding diamonds, namely lamproite. That mineral is also found in extinct volcanic piping and it also contains the precious gems. A sample of lamproite was available for members' examination, although Erich Grundel assured everyone it did not contain any diamond crystals.

Kathy explained that the color variations found in some less perfect diamonds were due in part to the presence of trace amounts of various impurities. When the diamond's carbon lattice structure contains impurities such as nitrogen, this causes a yellow or brown discoloration. The presence of boron causes a blue tint, and so forth, with various elements causing additional diverse colors.

The twenty-plus pictures of micro crystal diamonds, most of which Kathy personally collected and photographed, provided a world tour of famous diamond mines. They included specimens from: Kelsey Lake in Larimer county, Colorado; Lac de Gras in the Canadian N.W. Territory, near Edmonton, Alberta's diamond center; Minas Gerais in Brazil, noted for its alluvial green diamonds; the open pit Mir mine in Russia's Eastern Siberia Yakut; 3 very clear crystals from the Argyle mine in Australia, and 7 specimens from China.

Kathy said the bulk of her collection consists of diamond crystals from Africa, from about 12 different sites, including: about 6 from the Wesselton mine in the Kimberley District of South Africa; 4 from the Cape Province; a yellow specimen from the Orange Free State; the Premier Mine, Pretoria, Transvaal; the associated Cullinan Mine famous for giving the world the 3,106 carat diamond discovered in 1905 (Kathy visited there in 1991); specimens from the Ivory Coast, Ghana, Angola, Botswana, the Central African Republic, Zaire, Namibia, Liberia, Swaziland and Sierra Leone.

She concluded with a picture of the Aurora Pyramid of Hope collection of 296 natural diamonds illustrating a wide variety of colors on display in the London Museum of Natural History. Many of those specimens fluoresce when viewed with ultra violet light.

Throughout her presentation she interwove stories and experiences related to collecting and visiting diamond displays during her career as an airline flight attendant, including more recent

volunteering as a docent at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History and staffing the “Minerals Matter Cart” with colleague Sue Marcus, editing the Capital Area Micromounters club (www.DCmicrominerals.org) newsletter and Kathy’s close encounters with the Smithsonian’s Hope Diamond.

Attendees showed their appreciation for Kathy’s presentation with grateful applause. She and Sue Marcus called attention to a recently emerging problem, the cutting of a mineral staff person within the education program at the Natural History Museum.

President Dave Nanney concluded the evening by thanking Kathy and asked if any

attendees brought minerals as part of a show and tell presentation. Steve Johnson showed his most recent creation, a commissioned laser etched box for categorizing and holding models of minerals’ crystal shapes. Kenny Reynolds brought numerous interesting specimens including kunzite, apatite, wulfenite and calcite enclosing copper. Erich Grundel brought a lamproite specimen, as noted in the above discussion of diamond mineral sources.

The snacks for the October meeting will be provided by Alyssa, Leslie and Andy T. Dave thanked all for coming and invited everyone to socialize around the snack bar.



A Word from the President

by Matt Charsky,
President

Editor’s note: The article is adapted from A.F.M.S. News (September 2016), p. 4. Matt is local to our club and has attended many of our meetings, particularly prior to donning the mantle of AFMS president.

Couldn’t Make the Combined AFMS/NFMS Convention? Here’s What You Missed!

At the time I am writing this article, I am under a heat dome and sizzling.

Speaking of sizzling, I just returned from attending the 69th AFMS Annual Meeting in Albany, OR. The host Federation was the Northwest Federation and the host

club was the Willamette Agate and Mineral Society. The theme of the show was “Treasures of the Northwest”.

The organizers put on a great AFMS/Northwest Convention.

They also put on a wonderful show with approximately 40+ dealers, 9 demonstrations, and approximately 75 exhibits (of which 25 were competitively judged). Included in the total number of exhibits, 5 were juniors. Seven speakers addressing eleven talks rounded out the show.

At the AFMS Annual Meeting, we accepted the minutes of the 2015 meeting (that was held in Austin, TX) and reviewed the reports from each of the Officers from each Federation and the AFMS Committees.

Under unfinished business, we discussed the upcoming AFMS 70th Anniversary. For new business, we approved the 2016-2017 AFMS budget and elected new officers.

At the AFMS Scholarship Meeting, AFMS continues to provide two scholarships per Federation. There were other meetings namely the Uniform Rules Committee Meeting, Judging Meeting, American Lands Access Association Meeting, and the S.C.R.I.B.E. Meeting. I won't go into detail about them. There were also several Field Trips planned at different locations throughout Oregon.

The Bulletins Editor's and the Webmaster Breakfast was attended by approximately 40+ individuals.

The AFMS Awards Banquet, was attended by approximately 110 individuals who were treated to a sumptuous dinner Northwest style. The highlights at the AFMS Awards Banquet included installation of incoming Officers, presentation of the AFMS Recognition Award, and the

presentation of the Lillian Turner Junior Award.

The AFMS Convention can be a wonderful event where you can learn a lot about your own Federation as well as the other Federations around the country. Every club should be aware of the AFMS Uniform Rules for competitive exhibiting and the AFMS Scholarship Foundation for giving funds back to the hobby.

The 2017 AFMS Convention will be held in Ventura, CA. More details to follow.

From what I have seen and heard, it is clear for some Federations that the fight to keep collecting areas open is ongoing and that persistence will be needed to win the fight for our hobby. Many thanks to those Federations for doing this work on our behalf.

Till next month.

Matt

Mineralogical Society of America Editors' Picks

With the permission of Keith Putirka, the following are the Editor's picks of Highlights and Breakthroughs & Invited Centennial Articles from the July 2016 issue of the *American Mineralogist: Journal of Earth and Planetary Materials*. <http://www.minsocam.org>

Highlights and Breakthroughs

Modeling Crystal Structures

On page 1717 of this issue, I. David Brown presents an overview of Wander and Bickmore (2016; page 1862 of this issue), who, as Brown explains, use of spherical harmonics expansion to calculate the energy of aluminosilicate mineral structures. Wander and Bickmore suggest that their approach, provided that bond-valence sums are small, leads to errors that are comparable to those obtained from the

(vastly) more computationally intensive quantum mechanical approach. The challenge moving forward is the lack of experimental data that can be used to calibrate molecular models.

The Phosphorous-in-Garnet Conundrum

On page 1718 of this issue, William Glassley summarizes new experimental work by Konzett (2016; page 1756 of this issue), which provides a test of the usefulness of P in garnet as a geobarometer.

Konzett argues that the lack of high phosphorus garnets in UHP metamorphic rocks reflects later re-equilibration: Konzett synthesized at high pressures, garnets that are rich in Na-P components; these are then re-equilibrated in an eclogitic bulk composition at lower pressures, where the Na-P components exsolve to form apatite inclusions. This work suggests that a large fraction of apatite in eclogites might originate as a result of decompression-driven dissolution of phosphorus in garnet, and that the preservation of phosphorus-rich garnets may require very rapid upward transport. As Glassley further notes, though, to make use of such experimental results, it will be necessary to analyze Na and P contents at much higher than usual precision.

Invited Centennial Articles

The Connection (or Lack Thereof) Between Plutons and Volcanics

On page 1719 of this issue, Barnes et al. provide a detailed analysis of mineral and whole rock compositions of the Wooley Creek Batholith in northern California. They find that the middle to lower structural sections of the batholith are largely crystal cumulates, with little residual melt. Only the uppermost portions of the batholith contain whole rocks that are plausible liquid compositions. Their results imply that plutonic whole-rock compositions are rarely frozen liquids, and thus that plutonic compositions are a poor proxy for arc liquid or arc volcanic compositions.

Mineralogic History Through a Garnet Lens

On page 1735 of this issue, Charles Geiger helps to celebrate our centennial by telling the story of mineralogy through the history of studies of garnet. That history stretches back to a time when mineralogy and chemistry were not distinct sciences, and includes: Haüy's idea of a "smallest corpuscle" in crystals; Mitscherlich's discovery of isomorphism; Goldschmidt's proposals for atomic substitution controlled by atomic radii; classification for garnet based on solid solution behavior; and recent suggestions that, given extensive to complete solid solution, the terms pyralspite and ugrandite should be abandoned except for restricted and qualitative descriptive purposes.

Other Notable Articles

Arc Magma Sources Revealed in Zoned Olivine Grains

On page 1807 of this issue, Rowe and Tepley analyze olivine grains from rare absarokite and shoshonite lavas from the Cascades arc. The cores from high forsterite olivine grains have very high Ni concentrations (>6000 ppm) and low Ca (850 ppm), while their crystal rims have low Ni (1000 ppm) and high Ca (>1500 ppm). The authors interpret such zoning as a result of a two-stage history; with the core compositions growing from a harzburgite source that had reacted with a Si-rich slab-derived melt (transforming some olivine to pyroxene in the process). Rim compositions might arise from one of a range of different processes, including late crystal growth

from a peridotite-derived melt, or post-eruptive re-equilibration. In the former case, trace element systematics indicate no difference in incompatible element enrichments between the contrasting mineralogic sources, which implies that slab-derived fluids affect trace element concentrations over a broad region, but only locally affect source mineralogy.

Mining Fertilizer for REEs

On page 1854 of this issue, Radha Shivaramaiah et al. examine the means by which Rare Earth Elements (Eu, by way of example) are sequestered by phosphogypsum, which is a waste product related to the creation of phosphorous-based fertilizers. REEs are not the great concern they were just a few years ago, thanks to increased global production, but their extraction is nonetheless vital given their use in various technologies, including rechargeable batteries and phosphors in TV and computer screens. Shivaramaiah et al. find that REE are likely to be stored as a nanocrystalline precipitates on the crystal surfaces of phosphogypsum, and so should be highly extractable from a material that otherwise fills solid waste landfills.

Magmatic Clay?

On page 1906 of this issue, Gammel and Nabelek examine the compositions and paleo-temperatures of fluid inclusions captured by various phases in granite-hosted pegmatites in southern California. Fluid inclusion temperatures are mostly less than 400 °C, and range to as low as 70 °C—well below the water-saturated solidus of host granite. Their work not only reveals

the conditions by which pegmatite minerals precipitate, but observed phase relations and compositions track increases in acidity for hydrothermal fluids, due to precipitation of alkali-rich phases such as lepidolite; these evolutionary trends drive a fluid system towards kaolinite saturation. Clay minerals might thus not be a product of supergene reactions, but instead the very low-T end of a crystallization sequence that begins at magmatic temperatures.

Letter

Invisible gold made visible

On page 1916, Fougrouse et al. present the first atom probe study of gold distribution in arsenopyrite to characterize the three-dimensional (3D) distribution of gold at the nanoscale and provide data to discriminate among competing models for gold incorporation in refractory ores. Gold incorporation is shown to be controlled by the rate of crystal growth, with slow growth-rate promoting the formation of gold clusters and rapid growth-rate leading to homogeneous gold distribution. This may have consequences on approaches to the economic recovery of Au from refractory ores.

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- Na-P concentrations in high-pressure garnets: A potentially rich, but risky P-T repository. William Glassley

Special Collection: Perspectives on Origins and Evolution of Crustal Magmas

- Crystal accumulation in a tilted arc batholith. Calvin G. Barnes, Nolwenn Coint, Aaron Yoshinobu
- A tale of two garnets: The role of solid solution in the development toward a modern mineralogy. Charles A. Geiger

Special Collection: Apatite: A Common Mineral, Uncommonly Versatile

- The crystal structure of svabite, $\text{Ca}_5(\text{AsO}_4)_3\text{F}$, an arsenate member of the apatite supergroup. Cristian Biagioni, Ferdinando Bosi, Ulf Hålenius, Marco Pasero
- From phosphates to silicates and back: An experimental study on the transport and storage of phosphorus in eclogites during uplift and exhumation. Jürgen Konzett
- Fluorapatite-monzite-allanite relations in the Grängesberg apatite-iron oxide ore district, Bergslagen, Sweden. Erik Jonsson, Daniel E. Harlov, Jarosław Majka, Karin Högdahl, Katarina Persson-Nilsson
- Solid solution in the apatite OH-Cl binary system: Compositional dependence of solid-solution mechanisms in calcium phosphate apatites along the Cl-OH binary. John M. Hughes, Daniel Harlov, Sean R. Kelly, John Rakovan, Max Wilke

Special Collection: Advances in Ultrahigh-Pressure Metamorphism

- Dissolution-precipitation metasomatism and growth of zircon within phosphatic garnet in metapelites from western Massachusetts. Emily M. Peterman, David R. Snoeyenbos, Michael J. Jercinovic, Andrew Kylander-Clark

Special Collection: New Advances in Subduction Zone Magma Genesis

- Origin and petrogenetic implications of anomalous olivine from a Cascade forearc basalt. M.C. Rowe, F.J. Tepley
- Versatile Monazite: Resolving Geological Records and Solving Challenges in Materials Science
- Monazite age constraints on the tectono-thermal evolution of the central Appalachian Piedmont. Howell Bosbyshell, LeeAnn Srogi, Gale C. Blackmer

Articles

- A new EPMA method for fast trace element analysis in simple matrices. John J. Donovan, Jared W. Singer, John T. Armstrong
- Location and stability of europium in calcium sulfate and its relevance to rare earth recovery from phosphogypsum waste. Radha Shivaramaiah, Wingyee Lee, Alexandra Navrotsky, Dechao Yu, Paul Kim, Haohan Wu, Zhichao Hu, Richard Riman, Andrzej Anderko
- A preliminary valence-multipole potential energy model: Al-Si-H-O system. Matthew C.F. Wander, Barry R. Bickmore
- Optical phonons, OH vibrations, and structural modifications of phlogopite at high temperatures: An in-situ infrared spectroscopic study. Ming Zhang, Serena C. Tarantino, Wen Su, Xiaojie Lou, Xiaobing Ren, Ekhard K.H. Salje, Michael A. Carpenter, Simon A.T. Redfern
- Redox states of uranium in samples of microlite and monazite. Elena V. Puchkova, Roman V. Bogdanov, Reto Gieré
- Effects of differential stress on the structure and Raman spectra of calcite from first-principles calculations. Lei Liu, Chaojia Lv, Chunqiang Zhuang, Li Yi, Hong Liu, Jianguo Du
- Oxygen diffusion and exchange in dolomite rock at 700 °C, 100 MPa. Michael T. DeAngelis, Theodore C. Labotka,

Mostafa Fayek, David R. Cole, Lawrence M. Anovitz

- Fluid inclusion examination of the transition from magmatic to hydrothermal conditions in pegmatites from San Diego County, California. Elizabeth M. Gammel, Peter I. Nabelek

Nanoscale gold clusters in arsenopyrite controlled by growth rate not concentration: Evidence from atom probe microscopy. Denis Fougere, Steven M. Reddy, David W. Saxey, William D.A. Rickard, Arie van Riessen, Steven Micklethwaite

Letters

Useful Mineral Links:



Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (EFMLS)

www.amfed.org/efmls



American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS)

www.amfed.org



mindat.org

MINDAT

www.mindat.org



WebMineral

webmineral.com



Mineralogical Society
of America

www.minsocam.org



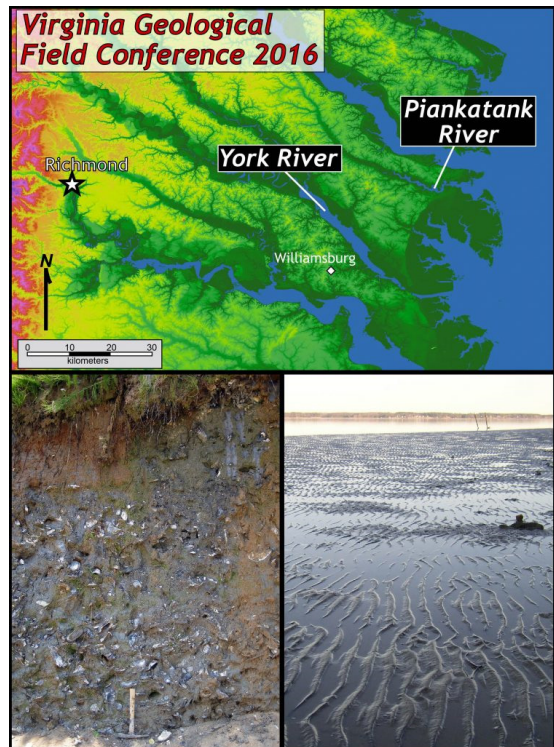
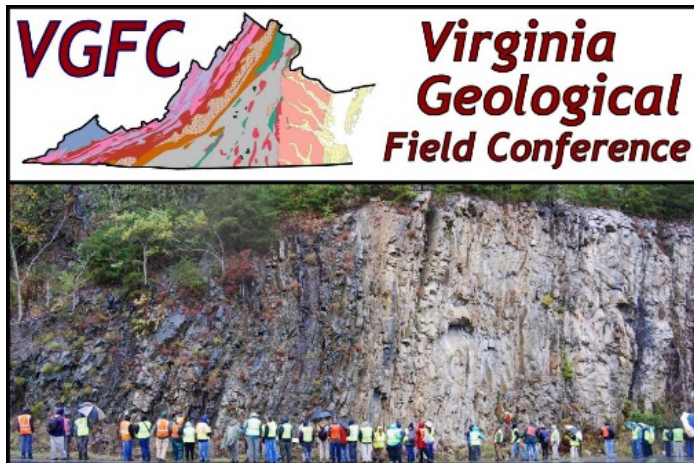
The Geological
Society of America
(GSA)

www.geosociety.org

Upcoming Local (or mostly local) Geology Events:

October:

5 MSDC October Meeting



7-8 Virginia Geological Field Conference 2016

The Commonwealth of Virginia encompasses five physiographic provinces, and contains a wide variety of igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks that range in age from the Proterozoic to the present. Few states can match Virginia's geological diversity. The Virginia Geological Field Conference is an annual gathering that highlights recent geological research in the Commonwealth. The Conference is a one to two day event that takes place in the Fall. The location changes from year-to-year, and typically follows a four-year rotation with trips in the Valley & Ridge/Plateau, Blue Ridge, Piedmont, and Coastal Plain. Attendance ranges

from 75 to 125 people and includes a broad array of attendees (from professionals and amateurs to students) and is open to all. **Transgressive Deposits of the Coastal Plain of Mathews County (Middle Peninsula, Virginia)**. Conference trip leaders are: Karen Layou, Reynolds Community College; Rowan Lockwood, College of William & Mary; Rick Berquist, Virginia Division of Geology and Mineral Resources; Pete Berquist, Thomas Nelson Community College. Hosted by the Department of Geology, College of William & Mary. A short summary of the planned field trip: "This year's field trip will focus on Cenozoic geology and paleontology along the York and Piankatank rivers in the eastern Virginia Coastal Plain. The field trip, which will be based at William & Mary, will be led by Karen Layou, Rowan Lockwood, Rick Berquist, and Pete Berquist. We will examine the Haven Beach marsh deposits that are being overstepped by the beach as a result of active marine transgression. We will also visit Holland Point on the Piankatank River to see a dated oyster reef at the base of the Elsing Green Alloformation. The Mitchem pit is also on the itinerary. Here, we will see Tabb-Sedgefield spit sands over bay-bottom muddy sands of Sedgefield (or the newly named Elsing Green Formation) with assemblages of *Mercenaria* and numerous other shells." "Please note that this particular fieldtrip will involve considerably more walking and fewer bathroom stops than recent VGFC trips. The round trip distances to the second and third sites involve 1.6 and 0.8 miles of walking, respectively. All three sites are situated on sandy and uneven ground. We will be traveling in a rural area, with few toilet facilities. There will be one Porta-Potty available at the first stop, and one toilet available on each coach. Please let Rowan Lockwood (rxlock@wm.edu) know if you are physically challenged and will require accommodations to visit these sites." Friday, October 7th – Meeting Up: We will all meet at 6 PM at the McGlothlin Street Hall, Room 20 (in the basement) on the William and Mary campus. Participants can park near Phi Beta Kappa Hall. We will discuss field trip activities and other important news as it relates to geology and the VGFC. Your registration includes two free drink tickets with the drinks being provided by the William & Mary Geology Department (thanks Chuck!). If that isn't enticement enough, also please note that we will be presenting this year's Anna Jonas Award to Gerald H. (Jerre) Johnson, Professor Emeritus at the College of William & Mary. Jerre and the late Bruce Goodwin founded this little thing that we call the Virginia Geological Field Conference back in 1969 and the very first field trip ever convened was a Coastal Plain trip entitled Geology of the York-James Peninsula and the South Bank of the James River. **Link to registration website is <http://vgfc2016.eventzilla.net>**

- 14-16 The Baltimore Mineral Society is pleased to announce the 60th Annual Paul Desautels Micromount Symposium at The Friends School of Baltimore, 5114 North Charles St; Baltimore, MD 21210. Registrations will be accepted by mail or will be taken at the door either Friday night or Saturday morning. We encourage you to pre-register by mail prior to October 3rd. **REGISTRATION FEE:** Fee for the Symposium this year will be \$30.00 in advance or \$35.00 at the door. Please make

checks payable to the Baltimore Mineral Society. Send completed form to: Carolyn Weinberger PO Box 302 Glyndon, MD 21071-0302 (includes dessert on Friday evening and light lunch on Saturday). Dinner will be on your own at local restaurants both Friday and Saturday evenings.

- 22–23 Rochester, NY - Rochester Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show & Sale and 66th Annual EFMLS Convention hosted by the Rochester Lapidary Society. Main Street Armory, 900 E Main St; Rochester, NY. Info: <www.rochesterlapidary.org/show>. EFMLS Annual Meeting, Friday, October 21.
- 24 NVMC October Meeting
- 26 Micromounters October Meeting

November:

- 2 MSDC November Meeting
- 5 – 6 47th Annual Fine Gem, Jewelry & Mineral Show – Gemarama 2016 sponsored by the Tuscarora Lapidary Society. Greater Philadelphia EXPO Center at Oaks, Hall C. Contact: Amy Karash <amy.karash@gmail.com>.
- 12-13 Fall New York City Gem, Mineral, & Fossil
- 19-20 25th Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Northern Virginia Mineral Club. The Hub Ballroom at George Mason University. Braddock Rd & Rt. 123, Fairfax, VA. Contact: <novamineralclub.org>
- 19-20 Gem Miner's Holiday Gem, Jewelry, & Gift Show – Lebanon Expo & Fairgrounds: Lebanon, Pennsylvania
- 28 NVMC November Meeting (subject to change based on show)
- 30 Micromounters November Meeting

December

- 9-10 Timonium Gem, Mineral, & Fossil Show – Holiday Inn Timonium: Timonium, Maryland

AFMS Code of Ethics

- I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.
- I will keep informed on all laws, regulations of rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- I will to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind - fences, signs, and buildings.
- I will leave all gates as found.

- I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.
- I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
[Editor's Note/Observation: I would also include wildlife as well as livestock.]
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.
- I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and Will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public "image" of rockhounds everywhere.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL
THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (MSDC)**

Family ~ \$25.00 per year. One address.

Individual ~ \$20.00 per year.

New * Renewal Dues are for Year _____*

For new members who join in the last months of the year, membership will extend through the following year with no additional dues.

ANNUAL DUES – PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES PROMPTLY.

Pay at next meeting or mail to:
Mineralogical Society of DC
c/o John Weidner
7099 Game Lord Dr
Springfield, VA 22153-1312

Name(s) (First and Last) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Phone(s): Home/Work/Mobile _____

Email(s) _____

OK TO INCLUDE YOU ON CLUB MEMBERSHIP LIST?

Yes – Include name, address, phone, email.

If you want any information omitted from the membership list, please note:

Omit my: Email, Home phone, Work phone, Mobile phone, Address,
 Name

SPECIAL CLUB-RELATED INTERESTS? _____

**MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
(2015 Officers & Board Members)**

President: Dave Nanney, dnanney@cox.net

Vice President & Program Chair: Dave Hennessey, davidhennessey@comcast.net

Secretary: Andy Thompson, thompson01@starpower.net

Treasurer: John Weidner, (mail: 7099 Game Lord Dr, Springfield, VA 22153-1312)

Directors:

Editor (Acting): S. Johnson

Co-Web Masters: Betty Thompson & Casper Voogt, <http://mineralogicalsocietyofdc.org/>

Meeting Dates, Time, and Location: The first Wednesday of each month. (No meeting in July and August.) The National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, 10th Street and Constitution Ave, Washington D.C. We will gather at the Constitution Avenue entrance at 7:45 PM to meet our guard who will escort us to the Cathy Kirby Room. Street parking:

Parking is available in the Smithsonian Staff Parking – just tell the guard at the gate that you are attending the Mineral Club Meeting.



THE MINERAL MINUTES

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Newsletter of the Mineralogical Society of the District of Columbia

Mineralogical Society of DC

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