

# The Mineral Minutes

## "Mineral Trip to Namibia, April 2018"

by Yury Kalish

To Be Presented by Casper Voogt on January 2nd, 2019



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### Prez Says..

by Dave Hennessey  
MSDC President



**H**appy Holidays and  
Happy New Year!

I am writing this note the day following our marvelous party at the Nanney's home. First and foremost, Dave and Leslie Nanney, thank you for opening your home to us and for all the

Our January presenter is our own co-webmaster Casper Voogt. While we are benefitting daily from his computer skills keeping MSDC's website up and running, every year I look forward to Casper's presentations, which allow me to live vicariously through his adventures. Casper is always generous with his time presenting to our club and other area clubs on his amazing trips. Over the last few years, we had opportunities to "travel" with Casper to Mozambique, Myanmar, and the Kola Peninsula in Russia. At our January meeting, Casper will take us on the next adventure, this time to Namibia.

Casper will connect history, geography, and geology in a presentation that will take us from geological changes a billion years ago, to German colonization a century ago, to independent Namibia of today. We will travel from the capital of Windhoek in the center of the country to Etosha National Park and mining towns in the north, to the Sossuvlei desert in the south. We will see zebras, cheetas, lions, and more. And, more on point for our mineralogical interests, we will admire localities for, and samples of, diopside, amethyst, quartz, aquamarine, and copper.

Casper is a part-time mineral dealer, lifelong mineral collector, and avid traveler. His academic background is in architecture (Princeton and Georgia Tech). He has lived in the U.S., the Netherlands, Aruba, and Switzerland. Casper runs a web development company and is the webmaster of the Northern Virginia Mineral Club and co-webmaster of our MSDC website.



Please join us in taking Casper to dinner on January 2nd before the club meeting. **Due to the change in the meeting location**, the dinner venue is the Tanniciff's Tavern at 222 7th Street SE, Washington, DC, which is around the corner from the meeting location. If you cannot make it to dinner, please go directly to 240 7th Street, SE, Washington, DC 20003 for the meeting at 7:30 pm.

# MSDC Who's Who for 2019

By Dave Hennessey, President

Each year brings changes in the line-up of club officers and committee chairs. After three years, Dave Nanney is stepping down as MSDC President. Thank you for three years of leadership, especially seeing our club through its 75th Anniversary celebration. The new MSDC President is Dave Hennessey, stepping in from the VP job he held for the last three years. The new Vice President is Yury Kalish, stepping in from his position on the Board of Directors.

Continuing as Secretary is Andy Thompson and continuing as Treasurer is John Weidner. Replacing Yury on the Board of Directors is Dan Teich. Continuing Board of Director members are Ken Reynolds and Amanda Parker. Betty Thompson and Casper Voogt continue as our co-webmasters. Ed Fisher continues as our Membership Outreach designee, and Steve Parker continues as Field Trip Coordinator. And finally, Steve Johnson is stepping down as our newsletter editor and Amanda Parker is stepping up into the position.

For all who are passing along the responsibilities they handled, thank you for your service. For all those continuing or taking on new roles in service to MSDC, thank you for stepping up.

## 2019 Updated Club Info

### MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Meetings are the First Wednesday of the Month (Jan-Jun and Sep-Dec). We meet in the lobby of the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History at 7:45pm. NOTE: **January 2nd meeting to be held at 240 7th Street, SE, Washington, DC 20003**

WEBSITE <http://mineralogicalsocietyofdc.org/>

FACEBOOK [www.facebook.com/MineralogicalSocietyOfTheDistrictOfColumbia](http://www.facebook.com/MineralogicalSocietyOfTheDistrictOfColumbia)

## 2019 Officers and Directors

**President** • Dave Hennessey • davidhennessey@comcast.net

**Vice President** • Yury Kalish • yury.kalish@gmail.com

**Secretary** • Andy Thompson • thompson01@starpower.net

**Treasurer** • John Weidner

mail: 7099 Game Lord Dr, Springfield, VA 22153-1312

### Directors

Amanda Parker (Editor)

Ken Reynolds

Dan Teich

### Webmasters

Betty Thompson

Casper Voogt

hard work of hosting our MSDC holiday gathering.

Many thanks to those who brought along food or came by early to help with the setup, and to Brenda, who helped make everything run smoothly.

We all enjoyed ourselves thoroughly. Thanks to our distinguished guests including Tim Rose, our club sponsor at the Smithsonian, and Drs. Richard Tollo and Michael Wise. Many thanks also to Emma Belanger, our MSDC scholarship recipient, for the great presentation on Cascade Range volcanology. We look forward to hearing from you again. It was an evening of good food, good friends, a wonderful presentation, and the added opportunity to admire the fabulous mineral collection the Nanney's have assembled. All in all, an enjoyable evening.

I am looking forward to the upcoming year's meetings. This past year we added "Sharing Time" to our meetings, following the speaker's presentation. This proved very popular and we are going to continue it in 2019. Anyone/Everyone is invited to bring along minerals that they would enjoy talking about with the group. Bring whatever fascinates you or what you think other club members will find interesting. This month I plan to bring along some minerals from Namibia, in keeping with our evening's presentation. I look forward to seeing everyone on January 2nd.

- Dave Hennessey

# Happy New Year!

A Note from Treasurer John Weidner

And to the treasurer of an organization, a new year means dues are due for the year.

We don't have a lot of expenses for the year, but dues are our only source of income. Fortunately, we bring in as much in dues as our expenses.

We hope you consider MSDC to be worth the dues:

\$25 for family membership

\$20 for an individual

You can mail the dues to

MSDC

c/o John Weidner

7099 Game Lord Dr

Springfield VA 22153-1312

Or just bring them to the January meeting.

Hope to see you there.

John Weidner

Treasurer

## MSDC's December 15th Business Meeting Report

By Andy Thompson, Secretary

During MSDC members' annual holiday party, out-going President Dave Nanney called for a pause to conduct the essential business of electing club officers for the 2019 year ahead. He called upon the chair of the Nominating Committee, Ed Fisher, who announced the results of its search for a slate of candidates. Ed began by noting David Nanney's decision to step down from the Presidency and thanked him for providing excellent leadership. Club members' applause expressed their appreciation for Dave's dedicated service and considerable personal contributions.

Ed identified the club's 2018 V.P. for Programs, David Hennessey as the 2019 nominee for the role of President. Similarly, Yury Kalish had accepted the nomination to be the new Vice President. Current officers John Weidner (Treasurer) and Andy Thompson (Secretary) agreed to continue serving in those positions. The club's three

Kenny Reynolds and Amanda Parker will continue in their roles. Dan Teich agreed to step up to replace Yury and will serve as the third director for the January 2019 through December 2021 term.

Ed asked if there were any additional nominations. With no new names offered, he called for and received a proposal to close nominations which members approved unanimously. A second affirmative vote then swept the new slate into office for the January through December 2019 term.

Dave Nanney then took the floor and thanked all those who supported the club during his term of service, especially Steve Johnson for his years of excellent editorial work with the Mineral Minutes newsletter. Dave thanked Amanda Parker for volunteering to serve as the club's new editor. He then addressed two important agenda items, the awarding the club's annual donation of funds to support ongoing mineralogical research. He noted that MSDC has annually provided a grant to assist with mineralogical education and research being conducted at the university level. For more than a decade, the club has been assisted by Dr. Richard Tollo of George Washington University's Geological Sciences Program in identifying a promising candidate.

This year's awardee is Ms. Emma Belanger who, in the summer of 2019, will collect and analyze mineral samples for her senior research project focusing on the unique mineralogy of the Cascade volcanic arc in central Oregon. Emma gave members a clear and concise illustrated presentation describing the extraordinary geology of the Cascade volcanic region. This grant, named the Foshag-Hronik-Dhyse Award, has been made possible by the generosity of past and current MSDC members. Dave Nanney invited Emma to return to a future MSDC meeting to share her research findings. He also thanked Dr. Tollo for his wonderful support of MSDC members' endeavors.

This second recipient was the Smithsonian Department of Mineral Sciences. Dave Nanney presented the check which was accepted by Tim Rose, Manager of the Analytical



Laboratories and MSDC's sponsor in the National Museum of Natural History, and also by noted Smithsonian pegmatologist, Dr. Mike Wise. Typically, MSDC's contribution has been used for practical purposes such as staff training or to help with equipment or mineral specimen acquisitions. Dave also thanked Tim and Mike for their on-going personal support of MSDC.


Having concluded the club's items of business, Dave Nanney called for and received a proposal to close the formal meeting and return to celebrating MSDC's holiday party. With the motion being unanimously approved, Dave then graciously thanked everyone for their contributions to and participation in the evening's festivities. In-coming President Dave Hennessey, on behalf of attending club members, thanked Dave and Leslie Nanney for their extraordinary support of MSDC, for their wonderful hospitality and for hosting the holiday gathering.

## Musings Of A Former MSDC President

By Former President, David Nanney

The last three years have certainly flown by after I became the President of MSDC. Only after being elected, and having hosted my first meeting, did I hear Ed Fisher whisper in my ear that we needed to do something to celebrate our 75th anniversary? WHAT? That event overshadowed my first two years, and recovery from said event pretty much covered this year.

But we did several good things during that time. Thanks completely to Dave Hennessey, who as VP had responsibility for the programs, we were a total success. Without exception, we had enjoyable, educational speakers talking to subjects we all joined MSDC to hear. IMHO, Dave's efforts completely drove our successful three years.



I will claim credit for organizing a trip to West Virginia with Prof Shelley Jaye from Northern Virginia Community College. Shel will claim credit for organizing a trip to West Virginia with Prof Shelley Jaye from Northern Virginia Community College. Shelley took us to Corridor H, US48, where we could access the geology of the east coast 25 feet from the highway pull over. The road cuts were so clean, and so accessible, everyone was able to touch the rock and understand the stories written there. That turned out to be very timely as Shelley has moved to the Pacific Northwest to enjoy mountains, oceans, and earthquakes (?).

And then there was the 75th MSDC anniversary. I have to commend so many of our club members who stepped up to make that an incredible success. The Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area (MNCA) and an anonymous MSDC donor made significant monetary contributions which allowed us to keep the cost per attendee well within everyone's budget. A number of people recognized needs and on their own initiative stepped up. Programs, table favorites, invitations, and a hundred other details disappeared from my radar thanks to you all. Special mention and gratitude goes to Kathy Hrechka who recognized I was floundering in identifying a proper location, and led us to the super venue at the Holiday Inn. I spoke to my post event feelings at the time so will simply state that was the most important event of my "reign" at MSDC and it was a complete team success.

After our MSDC Holiday party Saturday, and many glasses of wine, I reflected on the last three years with complete happiness. Our members are what MSDC is all about. You are some of the most friendly, intelligent, and knowledge seeking people we know. Since the day Leslie and I walked into a meeting 12 years ago, and were greeted by Cynthia Payne and then the entire club, we have enjoyed all of your friendship. The talks have been great, the location incredible,

Last thanks have to go to the special people from the Smithsonian. Tim Rose, our sponsor, insures we have a super meeting place WITH A PROJECTOR. I cannot tell you how much grief we gave Tim during the year after the old technology was removed and the new installed. Tim worked with the SI management to keep us in our home, gave presentations, and continued support. Mike Wise and Jeff Post, as well as other SI scientists, continue year after year to bring us interesting and timely presentations. All I can say is thank you for supporting MSDC over all these 75 years.

At every meeting, I opened with thanking the former Presidents of MSDC. At first it was courtesy, and once “engaged”, truly appreciative. And now it is my turn to join that list, Ed, Andy, Tom, Steve and all the others, to sit at the table and simply enjoy the talks and the friendship. Thank you all for being so supportive for these three years, and for continuing to seek knowledge about the world we live in. Dave Hennessey, it’s all yours, my friend.

My final note is to thank my bride of 50 years for putting up with my Presidency. Every evening as we drove home, she had an opportunity to “critique” my performance and the worst she ever said was that I was dancing down the middle of the tables too much. I can manage that. I am a very fortunate man in that my partner for life shares our interest in minerals, our interests in azaleas, and puts up with me. I am blessed.

Dave Nanney  
Past President, Mineralogical Society of the District of Columbia






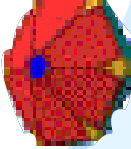




**T**hank you all for taking the time to read the newsletter each month. Steve has done an excellent job comprising the letter historically and left me very big shoes to fill!

You may notice this newsletter is light on geology news and mineral information, however I hope to make future publications more interesting by sharing articles from the web, magazines and our dedicated team of professional geology hounds.

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter this year, either with an article of your own design or link to an article you would like revised for our monthly letter, then please do so! Have all new articles to me no later than 2 weeks before the next meeting.

In addition, if you're interested in becoming a new member of the club, please see attached forms and/or attend our next meeting.

## Useful Mineral Links:

	<p>American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS)</p>	<p><a href="http://www.amfed.org">www.amfed.org</a></p>
	<p>Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (EFMLS)</p>	<p><a href="http://www.amfed.org/efmls">www.amfed.org/efmls</a></p>
	<p>MINDAT</p>	<p><a href="http://www.mindat.org">www.mindat.org</a></p>
	<p>Mineralogical Society of America (MSA)</p>	<p><a href="http://www.minoscam.org">www.minoscam.org</a></p>
	<p>Friends of Mineralogy</p>	<p><a href="http://www.friendsofmineralogy.org/">www.friendsofmineralogy.org/</a></p>
	<p>WebMineral</p>	<p><a href="http://webmineral.com">webmineral.com</a></p>
	<p>The Geological Society of America (GSA)</p>	<p><a href="http://www.geosociety.org/">www.geosociety.org/</a></p>
	<p>Jeff Scovil Mineral Photography (not advertising - just great photos)</p>	<p><a href="http://scovilphotography.com/">scovilphotography.com/</a></p>
	<p>United States Geological Survey (USGS)</p>	<p><a href="http://www.usgs.gov">www.usgs.gov</a></p>
	<p>The Geological Society of Washington (GSW)</p>	<p><a href="http://www.gswweb.org/">http://www.gswweb.org/</a></p>



# 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 the se 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 Drive  
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?** \_\_\_\_\_

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.





## THE MINERAL MINUTES

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NEWSLETTER OF THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mineralogical Society of DC

Time Sensitive Dated Material  
First-Class Mail