



# Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club



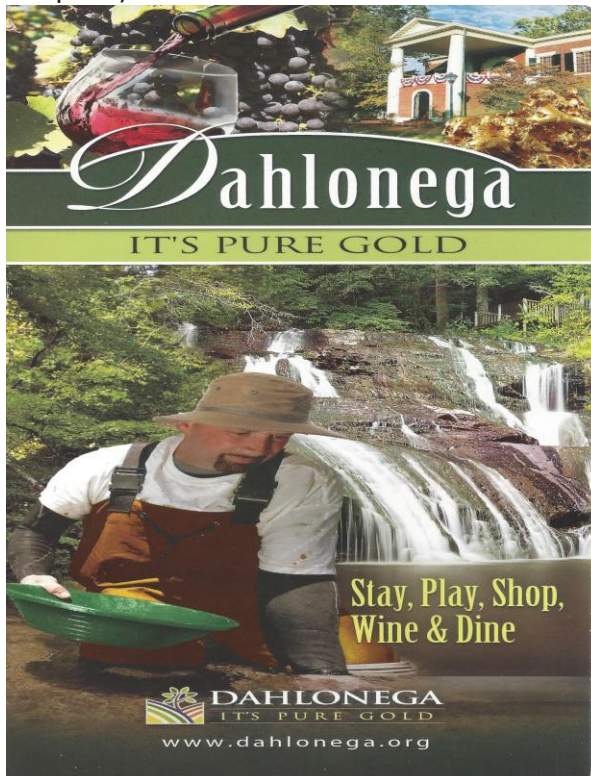
## ROCK TALK

## NOVEMBER 2022

22 NOVEMBER 2022 at 1900 (7 PM)  
 Meeting at OLD WALDORF SCHOOL  
 (next to the Waldorf JayCees Hall)  
 North of the RT 301 / RT 5 Intersection

### November Program GOLD in GEORGIA!

YES! The Confederate States of America (CSA) had their own gold supply to assist with the financing of the War Between the States (American Civil War) located in Dahlonega, Northern Georgia. Be there for this highly informational brief (sorry - no free samples!)



### Southern Maryland Rock, Mineral and Fossil Show - 05 November 2022

This first club show in years was a success! Kurt has published multiple pictures on the club's Facebook page and many more are in his issue also. Dave will debrief many of the details of its success at the meeting. He is also looking for a club member to take over/seriously assisting planning for next year's show **to be held 07 October 2023 at the Old Waldorf School**. DETAILS TO FOLLOW!!

### CLUB ELECTIONS

A team was selected to survey club members to inquire/ask/plea to possibly accept positions from those that have served admirably for years supporting club actions and events. If you have been approached, seriously think (even accept) the possibility to keep the club moving forward and making it an improved club with your ideas (crazy as they may be...look at what I am doing!) and way forward. Remember - Change is good (ask any baby still in diapers).

<b>In the NOVEMBER 2022 ROCK TALK:</b>	
<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
Table of Contents	2
Programs / Refreshments	2
Minutes	2
Petrified Wood Collecting at Odessa, Delaware	4
Calendar of Events /Odds and Ends	5
Southern Maryland Rock, Mineral and Fossil Show - RECAP	6
SMRMC Staff	11
Items Wanted/For Sale	11

### **2023 Programs**

#### **Volunteers are WELCOMED!!**

It is that time of year we begin the search for new briefers / topics for discussion at our monthly gatherings. Topics that amuse, amaze us, teach us, make us re-think, and more are needed outside the "standard" events we have scheduled. I employ the club members - please think/volunteer programs for the club. This includes those ever fantastic snacks and drinks that are brought in. Carole (or even the NEW PROGRAM COORDINATOR) will be ecstatic if you can assist in ANY WAY for programs or refreshments!!.

<b>2022 / 2023 PROGRAMS/REFRESHMENTS SCHEDULE</b>		
<b>MONTH</b>	<b>PROGRAM</b>	<b>REFRESHMENTS</b>
NOVEMBER 22	<b>Gold Mine - Dahlonga, GA</b>	<b>Ralph Boswell</b>
DECEMBER TBD	<b>Seasonal Party (??)</b>	<b>Pot Luck (??)</b>
MARCH 2023	<b>TBA</b>	<b>TBA</b>
APRIL 2023	<b>TBA</b>	<b>TBA</b>
MAY 2023	<b>TBA</b>	<b>TBA</b>

Dates are tentative. Changes are possible due to a multitude of reasons that are always beyond our control.

#### **FACEBOOK Page Is Growing!!**

Kurt is maintaining our ever growing Facebook Page and is looking for pictures of the club members collections and description of where those items were collected. This social media effort is helping share what this club is doing and can help it expand even further.

If you are not "Facebook Friendly" or "Computer Savy", Kurt is happy to assist you in navigating these "internet waters" safely to share your stories.

**OCTOBER 2022 MINUTES**

October 25, 2022

September Minutes submitted by Teresa Jones. Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Joe.

**VISITORS/NEW MEMBERS:** 23 Members in attendance. One visitor, Kenny Sams, who became a member.

**Membership:** Twelve new members to date include: Becky Ammar, Marie Ammar, Linda Holden, Paul Holden, Paul Middleton, Sandi Middleton, Allison Russell, Kenny Sams, Lara Sams, Zander Sams (7), Gavin Sams (4), Kate Shirley, for a total of 68 members.

**Facebook** posts/members: 149.

**Newsletter:** Rich is open for topics and ideas. Please send articles of interest to Rich. Our new Members were included in the newsletter. Rich emphasized that he needs the program information for future editions.

**SECRETARY:** September Minutes were approved.

**TREASURER:** Dave presented the monthly report. He has paid for rental of the School for the Rock Show in November and rental for the classroom for 2022-23. So far, 40 tables are paid for the Rock Show. We are in good shape.

**PROGRAMS:** Are set for the rest of 2022. Next meeting, the program will be presented by Gayle Greenwald, Paleontological Assistant. Refreshments will be provided Ralph Boswell?? (need to check)

Dave thanked all members for their help with the Rock Show, which is a "team Sport." Dave presented a detailed status report.

**Field Trips:**

Upcoming:

29 October - HK Penn-MD Quarry, PA. Limited to seven (7) members per club (joint trip with Montgomery County, Northern VA, Delaware Mineral Society) - Minerals: green translucent serpentine, picrolite, antigorite, brucite, mcguinnessite. Sign-up List is FULL.

5 November - 0900 -1600 - Southern Maryland Rock, Mineral and Fossil Show at Old Waldorf School, 3074 Crain Highway, Waldorf, MD 20601. Please come to our show and buy something special for those on your Holiday Gift List. Your help is also welcome after 1600 for table take down.

12 November - 0900 - 1500 - Richmond Gem and Mineral Society Rock Sale and Swap at 1515 East Ridge Road, Richmond, VA. 23279. No sign up required.

19 November - 1000 - 1700. Special Sale of Minerals and Memorabilia at Morefield Mine, Amelia, VA. Owner says: "May be last day ever open to the public." No sign up required.

19/20 November - 1000 - 1800 and 1000 to 1600. Northern VA Rock and Gem Show at George Mason University, Dewberry Hall Johnson Center, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030

26 November - **PROBABLE** - Odessa, DE. trip to find petrified wood. Details and sign-up were emailed to all SMRMC members on 10-24-2022. Please sign up directly with Bob Ertman (Calvert Marine Museum Host) because date may change due to crop (soybean) harvest.

**Miscellaneous Information re Rock Show:**

Ralph asked for some 'upfront change' for the admissions table. Dave will provide.

It was noted that the nearest ATM machine is in the Jaycee Building next door.

Dave also noted that the vendors are asked to provide at least a \$10.00 valued specimen for the door prizes and to provide flats of something for the children attending. For example, a bag of polished stones.

**NOTE:** A "Last Status Report for 2022 Southern Maryland Rock, Mineral and Fossil Show" was discussed. These details and discussions were not included in the newsletter due to "sensitive show details".

**NEW BUSINESS:**

It was mentioned that the club should have an 'official' Nomination Committee rather than asking for volunteers. Dave would like to have a new treasurer, seeing as how he had had the position for many, many years.

Polly, Carol and Paula agreed to serve as the Nominating Committee for future officer elections. The following agreed to maintain their current position: Joe, President; Carol, V.P. of Programs; Teresa as Secretary; and Rich as Newsletter Editor.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, a motion was made by Kurt and

seconded by Rich to adjourn the business meeting. Motion passed and we were adjourned at 7:50 PM.

After the door prize drawing (thanks, Dave) and a brief break, Dr. Dale Greenwalt presented a fascinating program entitled "The Fossil Record in Blood". Much interesting information was present, including blood engorged mosquitoes from which DNA can be extracted and many other fascinating research results.

Thanks to Bernie and Ellis Borgnis for providing tonight's delicious wings, pastries and beverage.

**Petrified Wood Collecting at  
Odessa, Delaware**

The following is an invitation from **Bob Ertman of the Calvert Marine Museum Fossil Club to attend the Fall 2022 Petrified Wood Field Trip in Odessa, DE.** Once again, we are going to collect petrified wood in Odessa. Your clubs are invited. Signup (for drivers only) needs to be by email directly with me, [robertertman@msn.com](mailto:robertertman@msn.com).

He will send you the directions and is so that he can be sure that everyone gets the word in case of postponement or anything else troublesome. This is a working farm! The USDA says that the usual dates for soybean harvest in Delaware are 10/22 - 11/14, usually ending by 11/25. If we need to reschedule, Dec. 3 & 17 are the likely dates.

(I don't need to know how many people there will be; even last-minute added or dropped riders are not an issue.)  
Enjoy! Bob

--

**Saturday, November 26, 2022, Odessa, DE.**

This is a John Wolf Memorial Trip. Special COVID instructions: If the CDC or the State of Delaware issue new guidelines between now & then, I'll pass them on. The pandemic is easing up but still, please stay safe and be courteous. We will be in a big field and you will have no trouble staying well apart.

Sign up by email, the earlier the better but no later than Thanksgiving, [robertertman@msn.com](mailto:robertertman@msn.com).

And a special note: This is a working farm. If the harvest isn't in, we will have to postpone the trip.

This year we will meet directly at the farm (directions at sign up), starting at 10:00 AM **(but don't go to the farm early)**

We'll walk the fields and collect petrified wood (cypress), probably originally deposited in the Cretaceous or Paleocene Rancocas Group and later re-deposited in a Pleistocene bed. (Thanks to Dr. Earl Manning, DVPS member, for correcting our previous description of the petrified wood as being Pleistocene.) No special equipment is necessary; in fact, you should leave your tools at home so that we do not do anything to cause erosion on this low-till farm. Here's a link to a nice write up about one of our trips across the road, before the school was built:

<http://viewsofthemahantango.blogspot.com/2011/08/petrified-wood-from-delaware.html>



## Calendar of Events /ODDS AND ENDS

The Rock and Gem Magazine has a webpage specifically for rock/mineral/fossil/etc shows for the United States. For those members that travel from Maryland area to get away from the cold but still have that need for a "good rock show", visit the below website and see if a show is occurring in your area of travel. The winter months are not showing any "local" shows for our area. But stay tuned for possible updates!!

<https://www.rockngem.com/ShowDatesFiles/ShowDatesDisplayAll.php?ShowState=ALL>

### Learn to Identify Rivers in the Rock Record with a Geologist

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ilityu2C9TQ>

### Roadside Geology of Maryland, Delaware, and Washington D.C. by John Means

Learn about the Geology of Maryland, Delaware, and Washington DC with maps, photos and expert descriptions! This 6"x9" paperback has 344 pages that are packed with detailed information about Maryland, Delaware, and Washington D.C. Geology.

<https://geology.com/store/roadside-geology-maryland-delaware-washington-dc.shtml>

### Diamond Mines in the United States

<https://geology.com/gemstones/united-states-diamond-production.shtml#kelsey>

### Early Uranium Glass

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w9MDz8K6yQg>

### Scientists Find Plaster Copies of Fossil Destroyed by Nazis

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/scientists-find-plaster-copies-of-fossil-destroyed-by-nazis-180981080/>

### Which Countries Produce the Most Gem Diamonds?

<https://geology.com/articles/gem-diamond-map/>

### A recently discovered TRACHYTE-hosted rare earth element-niobium-zirconium occurrence in northern Maine, USA

<https://pubs.geoscienceworld.org/segweb/economicgeology/article/doi/10.5382/econgeo.4993/618738/A-RECENTLY-DISCOVERED-TRACHYTE-HOSTED-RARE-EARTH>

### Show Recap by Dave Lines

There were 23 vendors and 47 tables at the Show. The huge variety and quantity of rocks, gems, minerals, fossils, lapidary creations, handcrafted jewelry and fluorescent material presented for sale were absolutely mind boggling. Vendor pride was very evident in the creativity and beauty of the displays. There was a LOT of really nice stuff.

We had 250 attendees (220 paid admission and 30 children free). The vendors were very generous in supplying door prize items, and we announced door prizes every 30 minutes at first --- but had to increase the frequency to every 20 minutes to give them all away. The vendors were also very cooperative and generous in providing free rocks to the kids --- every kid was virtually walking around with a bag of

goodies – a bit like Halloween treats. Lot of happy pebble pups and future rockhounds.

An informal sampling of about 30 to 40 customers in response to my question: “How did you find out about this show?” revealed 50% from Facebook and 20% from internet searches. But every category of advertising that we used led to customers -- lots of interesting stories there. Newspapers (both hard copy and online), highway signs, show flyers (both posted and given out at other shows), email invitations from our members and from other clubs, word of mouth and even the Charles County Fair exhibit all yielded customers. Your help was much appreciated.

We gained 14 new members --- 7 adults and 7 youths --- who have paid their dues and joined our club.

Overall, the vendors were happy, the customers were happy, and we became a stronger club by working together to accomplish a tough and significant goal. Well done and thank you all.

Our next show is scheduled for **Saturday October 07, 2023, from 9 am to 4 pm at the Old Waldorf School**. If you want to help, please let me know. I will be available to assist the new Show Chairman. ☐ Things should be easier next time now that we have had success with this one. We have a lot of talent in our club. And remember --- “Rock Shows are a team sport”. Thank you. Best, Dave Lines, 2022 Show Chairman













**The Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club**  
Meetings take place on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at  
7:00pm  
Held at the OLD WALDORF SCHOOL  
Next to the Waldorf JayCees Hall  
3074 Crain Highway, Waldorf, MD 20601  
North of the RT 301 / RT 5 intersection  
We're on the web: [SMRMC.ORG](http://SMRMC.ORG)

<b>SMRMC OFFICERS</b>	
<b>PRESIDENT</b> Joe Davis	
<b>Programs / Vice President</b> Carole Raucheison	<b>Membership / Vice President</b> Kurt Knower
<b>Secretary</b> Teresa Jones	<b>Webmaster</b> Bob Davidson
<b>Field Trip Chairman</b> David Lines	<b>Treasurer</b> David Lines
<b>Rock Talk Editor</b> Rich Simcsak	<b>FACEBOOK Coordinator</b> Kurt Knower

**ITEMS WANTED/FOR SALE**

**For Sale** – Virginia Unakite slabs (approx ¼ inch thick) – \$0.50 per square inch (this is half off regular price). Call Dave (240) 427-7062

