



Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club



ROCK TALK

NOVEMBER 2023

28 NOVEMBER 2023 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

"Starry, Starry Night"

Jill Lee will be leading the program with a discussion on Astronomy. Come see what stars will show us. The whys and hows the ancients drew the constellations the way they did. Promises to be starry night for all!

EDITOR'S THOUGHTS

Also, tonight the club will have elections for selected positions for the upcoming years. As a past president (9 years ago (was "drafted/volunteered/shanghaied")), I had a chance to keep the club in a direction to excel and expand. This could be done by anyone with the desire and vision to take the club forward in the post COVID years.

If you feel that the challenge is there for you, please rise forward and work for the club to make it better than it is now. Bring your vision along with others to expand the club to others in the Southern Maryland community.

IN THIS EDITION

Lucapa finds Lulo mine's third-largest diamond
 Taseko secures final permit for Florence copper project in Arizona
 The Empress of Uruguay

OCTOBER 2023 MINUTES

Old Waldorf School, Waldorf, MD
 October 24, 2023

October Minutes submitted by *Teresa*.
 Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Vice President *Vycki*.

VISITORS/NEW MEMBERS: Approximately 26 Members in attendance. New Member *Bob Curin* was welcomed, as was Jasmine and Tarin, Chris and Ocean Williams.

SECRETARY: *Kurt* moved to accept the minutes; Sue seconded; minutes were approved.

MEMBERSHIP: *Vycki*: "Prior to tonight's meeting, we had 140 members, of which 21 are junior members. This number also includes eight (8) past due membership renewals. Calls will be going out this weekend. Please keep in mind that dues has

to be current to be permitted to participate in field trips.

If you have junior members and have not provided me with the month and year of birth, please do so as soon as possible. We need this information to track the ages our junior members on an on-going basis.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who helped out with membership while I was away, particularly Susan. Since I am back and have no travel planned for quite a while, please resume sending all membership applications and membership payments to me. “

TREASURER’S REPORT: Given.

FACEBOOK posts/members: 433. Kurt encouraged folks to ‘join’ the Facebook Educational postings are of interest on the site. Please post pictures of items that might be of interest.

WEBSITE: Nothing new to report.

NEWSLETTER: Went out to all members via email. He is always taking input. He would like to have input from our local members for the publication and asked members to send him articles of interest and ideas of what they would like to see in the newsletter.

PROGRAMS: *Sue* reported that Programs are set for the rest of 2023. Since Dale Greenwalt had to cancel his presentation, tonight’s program consisted of a member ‘show and tell’ with their favorite rock or rock club memory. Tim and Lorna brought delicious refreshments. For the November program, Jill will present a program on astronomy. Carole, Al, and Holly will provide refreshments. The December meeting will be our traditional potluck. Remember to bring a

rock-related gift for the ‘Chinese’ Gift Exchange. It will be held Tues., December 19 at 6:00 pm. Value of the gift should not exceed \$20.00.

Programs are needed for 2024. She encouraged anyone who has a topic of interest to consider presenting to the group in 2024. A sign-up sheet was distributed for Programs and Refreshments for 2024.

FIELD TRIP REPORT

Dave reported on the *Recent Past Field Trips*

Oct. 14-15 – (“go on your own”) Primitive Technology Weekend at Cromwell Valley Park, 2175 Cromwell Bridge Road, Parkville, MD 21234. Did anyone attend? (None of the members present indicated they attended).

Upcoming Field Trips

Nov 18-19 – Not a field trip, but another great local show – Northern Virginia Mineral Club Rock Show - Saturday, Nov. 18 (10 am-6 pm) in Dewberry Hall at George Mason University at Fairfax, Va. Go to their website novamineral.org for admission discount coupon and directions. Thirty to forty vendors are expected. There will be a silent auction and a ‘lab’ with activities for kids.

Nov. 25- Collect petrified wood in Odessa, DE. Trip announcement was emailed to members on October 12th.

December/January/February – **Short Notice Fossil Collecting** field trips in local tidal waters. Actual time of trips depends on strong north winds and time of lowest tides. Club members will be notified by email – sometimes less than 24 hours ahead. Areas where ‘blow-out tides’ may occur:

Chesapeake Bay, Calvert Cliffs, Purse St. Park, Nanjemoy.

OLD BUSINESS: *Rock Show Results, Dave Lines, Show Chair*

22 vendors; 45 vendor tables plus meeting room rented (for Fluorescent Room) and admission table; 196 Customers completed door prize slips; 150 unique email addresses on the door prize slips.

Best Guess of Attendance: 2023 Show vs 2022 Show

290 (150 adults plus 40 kids free) vs 250 = (220 pd admissions + 30 free kids. - 24% drop in attendance for 2022 – reasons: a.m. rain/holiday weekend (Columbus Day)/one month earlier. Also, perhaps the change in date (some people missed because of a different date originally published?)

General observations: Advertise!! (free) Home school Group.

- Good publicity was a major factor. Many membership applications were received.
- Lots of interaction with kids by the vendors provided a positive experience for attendees.
- Another benefit/positive outcome: Many family groups attended
- Event was well organized
- Vendor samples generated great excitement for the children attending.

Chairman for the Rock show suggestion: Kenny Jameson willing to be co-chair? He suggested a two (2)-day show because of the time it takes to set up.

Vendor Recruitment? Committee?

NEW BUSINESS:

Next year's Rock Show is scheduled for **Oct. 5, 2024**. *Save the date!*

Vycki pointed out that our By-Laws call for **Elections** next month and there are a number of positions open. A Nominating Committee should begin soliciting nominations or have self-nominations for the following offices/Committees: *President, Programs- Vice President, Rock Show Chairman and Secretary*. *Please consider a self-nomination for one of these positions!*

Member Auction: It was suggested that a Member Auction Committee be formed. Possibly hold it at a local pavilion/park on a Saturday and combine it with a picnic. Kurt suggested that Kenny and Theresa be Committee Chairmen for the event. Check with Parks and Rec for locations. If you wish to volunteer for the committee, email Sue.

Think about: A possible upgrade to electrical systems for the auditorium?? (Sandi suggested?) *I believe this was in response to a query about what we use our profits for?*

Suggestion: Kurt suggested to create a scholarship to send one of our members to Wild Acres. Approximate cost is \$500.00-600.00. Create an incentive. Teresa suggested that (after the camp), the recipient should be a present his/her experiences to the membership.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Ralph moved and Greta seconded to adjourn. Motion passed and the business meeting was adjourned at 8:04pm. After the door prize drawing (thanks, Dave), members were treated to yummy refreshments provided by Tim and Lorna.

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2023/4 PROGRAMS/REFRESHMENTS SCHEDULE		
MONTH	PROGRAM	REFRESHMENTS
28 NOV 2023	ASTRONOMY	Carole, Al & Polly
19 DEC 2023	Christmas Party	POT LUCK
26 MAR 2024	TBD	TBD
23 APR 2024	TBD	TBD
28 MAY 2024	TBD	TBD
25 JUN 2024	TBD	TBD
23 JUL 2024	TBD	TBD
27 AUG 2024	CLUB AUCTION	POT LUCK
24 SEP 2024	TBD	TBD
22 OCT 2024	TBD	TBD
26 NOV 2024	TBD	TBD
XX DEC 2024	Christmas Party	POT LUCK

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS**24-26 November 2023 —SALEM, VIRGINIA:**

Annual show; Roanoke Valley Mineral and Gem Society; Salem Civic Center, 1001 Roanoke Boulevard; Fri. 2-7, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 12-5; Adults \$5, ages 14 and under free with adult; The Roanoke Valley Mineral and Gem Society has hosted our annual Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry show for over 40 years! This year the RVMGS is celebrating our 60th year as a club and are excited to make this year's show our best yet; contact Roanoke Valley Mineral and Gem Society Show; Email: info@rvmgs.org; Website: rvmgs.org

8-10 December 2023 —SWANNANOVA,

NORTH CAROLINA: Show; MAGMA and Jacquot & Son Mining; Land of the Sky Shrine Club, 39 Spring Cove Road; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; Free Admission; MAGMA, Land of the Sky, Christmas Gem Show! Top vendors offering anything and everything you could want in the mineral/treasure hunting world. Free admission. Open to the public. Food and drink available daily. Clean restrooms. Climate controlled. Come get that perfect Christmas present; contact Richard Jacquot, (828) 779-4501; Email: rickjacquot@gmail.com; Website: www.AmericanRockhound.com

17-21 January 2024—QUARTZSITE ,

ARIZONA: Wholesale and retail show; Quartzsite Improvement Association; Quartzsite Improvement Association, 225 E Ironwood; Wed. 9-5, Thu. 9-5, Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5; Free; Over 250 vendors in one location Full service dining options Daily Rockhounding trips; contact Nancy Nichols, (928) 927-6325; Email: Powwow@qiaarizona.org

24-4 January/February 2024 —TUCSON,

ARIZONA: Annual show; JOGS Tucson Gem & Jewelry Show; Tucson Expo Center, 750 E Irvington Rd ; daily 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Registered Buyers: FREE - General Admission: \$20 - Proof of Military: FREE - Children: No Children Under 14; The show features a wide variety of products from a diverse group of vendors, including jewelry designers, manufacturers, miners, wholesalers, and jewelry liquidators from countries such as the US, Europe, Africa, India, Thailand, Mexico, Canada, Germany, Nepal, Poland, Russia, and more; contact Yelena Masenko, (213) 629-3030; Email: advertising@jogsshow.com; Website: www.jogsshow.com

27-10 January/February 2024 —TUCSON,

ARIZONA: Wholesale and retail show; Adam Aaronson; Mineral and Fossil Marketplace, 1333 N Oracle Rd; daily 10-6; Free; Get up close to gigantic sea monsters and full-size dinosaur skeletons! The Mineral and Fossil Marketplace is growing. New container lot, large tent, and remodeled gallery host international fine minerals and one of the best fossil exhibitions in Tucson. Come find meteorites, monster crystals; contact Adam Aaronson, (520) 245-3052; Email: mineralfossilmarketplace@gmail.com; Website: mfmsshow.com

2-3 March 2024—WILMINGTON,

DELAWARE: Annual show; Delaware Mineralogical Society; Double Tree by Hilton, 4727 Concord Pike (Rt-202); Sat. 10-5, Sun. 11-5; Seniors (60+) \$5, Adults (18 - 59) \$6 , Juniors (12 to 17) \$3, Scouts in Uniform & Children under 12 Free when accompanied by a paying adult; Family Friendly show features educational exhibits of mineral, lapidary and fossil specimens; a roster of fine dealers of minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry; raffles of interesting

specimens and a children's area, where youngsters may purchase inexpensive mineral and fossil specimens; contact Christine Verdi - (Show Chair); Email: 1DMS.President@gmail.com ; Website: www.facebook.com/DEMineralShow

8-9 March 2024—RICHBORO, PENNSYLVANIA: Annual show; Leidy Microscopic Society; Advent Lutheran Church, 45 Worthington Mill Rd, 916 Senator Rd; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 9-6; \$25 for half table ; \$40 for full table; visitors fee - \$5 on Friday, \$10 on Saturday and includes lunch; Micromount Symposium-two guest speakers, silent auctions, free giveaways, sell, trade, swap micromounts, lunch on Saturday included; contact Donald McAlarnen, (610) 247-5097; Email: donmcalarnen@outlook.com; Website: <https://leidymicroscopical.com>

ODDS AND ENDS

ROCKCHASING.COM

A site for all rockhounds. Describes what can be found in each state with some locations for the material to be found. When one reviews the "Rockhounding in Maryland" (<https://rockchasing.com/rockhounding-in-maryland/>), one will find a link to our club's webpage!! Highly interesting weekly emails have gem/mineral information and stories. Strongly recommend looking over this site and signing up for the emails.

Other Web Sites worthy to mention....

www.fossilera.com

uvminerals.org

geologyin.com

geology.com

dmme.virginia.gov

mindat.org

www.minerals.net/

geologyscience.com/

<https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

<https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/about/Pages/Geological-Survey.aspx>

FACEBOOK Page Is Growing!!

Kurt is maintaing 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.

Lucapa finds Lulo mine's third-largest diamond

<https://www.mining.com/lucapa-finds-lulo-mines-third-largest-diamond/>



The 208-carat diamond recovered at Lulo mine. (Image courtesy of [Lucapa Diamond](#).)

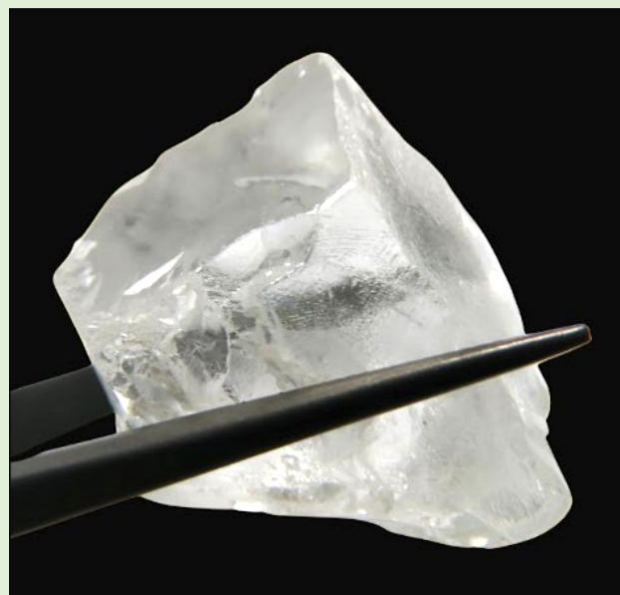
Australia's Lucapa Diamond (ASX: LOM) has recovered a 208 carat diamond at its prolific Lulo mine in Angola, the third-largest ever found at the operation.

The company said the high-quality, type IIa diamond was unearthed at the lizeria, or terrace area, of its Mining Block 31 portion of Lulo, known for delivering high-value stones.

The diamond is also the second 100-carat-plus stone Lucapa retrieved in October, following the recovery of a 123-carat, type IIa rough at the start of the month.

The mine, which hosts the world's highest dollar-per-carat alluvial diamonds, began

commercial production in January 2015. Only a year later, it delivered the largest ever diamond recovered in Angola — a 404-carat white stone later named the "4th February Stone".



It is the second 100-carat-plus diamond found at Lulo in October. (Image courtesy of [Lucapa Diamond](#).)

The operation has delivered 39 diamonds weighing more than 100 carats each to date.

Lucapa has a 40% stake in the Lulo mine. The rest is held by Angola's national diamond company (Endiama) and Rosas & Petalas, a private entity.

Angola is the world's fifth diamond producer by value and sixth by volume. Its industry, which began a century ago under Portuguese colonial rule, is successfully being liberalized.

Taseko secures final permit for Florence copper project in Arizona

<https://www.mining.com/taseko-secures-final-permit-for-florence-copper-project-in-arizona/>

Taseko Mines (TSX:TKO; NYSE: TGB) says it has received the final permit for its greenfield, in situ recovery (ISR) Florence copper project south of Phoenix, Arizona. The US Environmental Protection Agency confirmed there have been no appeals to issuing the final underground injection control (UIC) permit.



In situ recovery makes Florence perhaps the most environmentally friendly copper producer in the U.S. Credit: Taseko Mines

“Successful completion of the UIC permitting process is a result of Taseko’s long-term development approach, and the quality and environmental integrity of the

project,” CEO Stuart McDonald said in a news release.

“Taseko is now in a unique position, with one of the very few fully permitted mining projects in North America. With the final permit in hand, we have a clear line of vision to commercial production and are that much closer to realizing the full value of Florence copper,” he said.

The company said the project will be energy and water efficient and have the lowest greenhouse gas intensity per pound of any US producer thanks to ISR. When fully operational, it will have an annual capacity of 85 million lb. of LME Grade A copper annually and a mine life of 22 years.

Taseko granted a 2.7% streaming agreement to Mitsui, who paid \$50 million towards construction of the commercial production facility. Mitsui has also signed an offtake contract for 81% of the copper cathode produced during the early years of operation.

Mitsui also holds an option to invest another \$50 million for a 10% equity interest in Florence.

Florence has total proven and probable reserves of 290.2 million tonnes grading 0.36% copper. The reserves are contained within the measured and indicated resources of 329.2 million tonnes grading 0.35% copper. An inferred resource of 38.1 million tonnes at 0.32% copper has also been outlined.

The Empress of Uruguay

An amethyst geode is a **hollow rock with amethyst crystals lining the inner walls**. The **largest amethyst geode in the world** is named **The Empress of Uruguay** and is displayed at the Crystal Castle & Shambhala Gardens in Byron Bay, Australia.

It is **3.27 meters tall, 2.5 tonne, and has thousands of perfect crystals**. It was formed 130 million years ago. Another large amethyst geode is displayed in Shandong Tianyu Museum of Natural History in China, weighing 13,000 kg and measuring 3 meters long



"Rock Snake -- add your own rock"

STATE FOSSILS WORD SEARCH

W	H	S	U	R	U	A	S	O	L	I	S	A	B	Y
S	O	A	E	P	J	C	M	R	M	S	T	L	E	H
T	P	O	D	T	O	R	S	A	M	O	E	L	L	D
R	E	O	L	R	N	L	U	L	K	T	G	O	E	O
I	M	R	C	Y	O	O	L	T	B	E	O	S	M	O
C	C	E	E	A	M	S	R	A	P	L	S	A	N	W
E	R	P	G	D	H	A	A	B	C	U	A	U	I	D
R	I	O	P	A	O	P	M	U	U	S	U	R	T	E
A	N	O	D	O	T	S	A	M	R	E	R	U	E	I
T	O	P	E	R	T	I	C	A	O	U	U	S	S	F
O	I	S	A	U	R	O	P	O	D	T	S	D	R	I
P	D	X	Y	N	O	L	A	G	E	M	H	E	T	R
S	A	B	E	R	T	O	O	T	H	E	D	C	A	T
L	A	R	O	C	S	U	R	E	T	P	Y	R	U	E
E	C	P	H	O	R	A	D	O	O	W	M	L	A	P

The majority of the states in the United States have an official state fossil designation. Several states have fossils unofficially designated thanks to a fossil being designated as the “State Dinosaur” or “State Stone”. There are seven (7) states without a state fossil designation, Arkansas, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, New Hampshire and Rhode Island.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ALLOSAURUS (UTAH) | PALMWOOD (LOUISIANA) |
| BASILOSAURUS (ALABAMA & MISSISSIPPI) | PERTICA (MAINE) |
| BELEMNITES (DELAWARE) | PETRIFIED WOOD (ARIZONA & WASHINGTON) |
| CORAL (FLORIDA) | PHACOPS (PENNSYLVANIA) |
| CRINOID (MISSOURI) | SABER TOOTH CAT (CALIFORNIA) |
| ECPHORA (MARYLAND) | SAUROPOD (TEXAS) |
| EUBRONTES (CONNECTICUT) | SCALLOP (VIRGINIA) |
| EURYPTERUS (NEW YORK) | STEGOSAURUS (COLORADO) |
| HADROSAURUS (NEW JERSEY) | TEREDO (NORTH DAKOTA) |
| ISOTELUS (OHIO) | TRICERATOPS (WYOMING & SOUTH DAKOTA) |
| MASTODON (MICHIGAN) | WOLLY MAMMOTH (ALASKA & NEBRASKA) |
| MEGALONYX (WEST VIRGINIA) | |



The Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club
Meetings take place on the 4th 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

SMRMC OFFICERS	
PRESIDENT Joe Davis	
Programs / Vice President Susan Knower	Membership / Vice President Vycki Borgnis
Secretary Teresa Jones	Webmaster Bob Davidson
Field Trip Chairman David Lines	Treasurer Greta G
Rock Talk Editor Rich Simcsak	FACEBOOK Coordinator 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

