

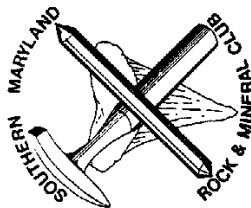
December 2010



SOUTHERN MARYLAND ROCK AND MINERAL CLUB



RockTalk



Message from the President

Wow! it's December already. This year has been a busy one! We've had numerous rock hunting excursions, jewelry making classes, shows and sales, and a host of new members join us this year. All of this wouldn't be possible without the efforts of our dedicated club officers and members. I would like to thank all our officers for their hard work:

Larry- for organizing our programs and meeting refreshments,

Dave- for keeping track of the treasury and most of all for many well-organized, interesting, and fun-filled field trips-keep them coming!

Polly- for taking care of the secretarial duties,

Jessica- for put-

ting together a fantastic newsletter every month,

Bob- for the incredible website work and the marvelous field trips,

Michael- for his liaison/youth coordinator job.

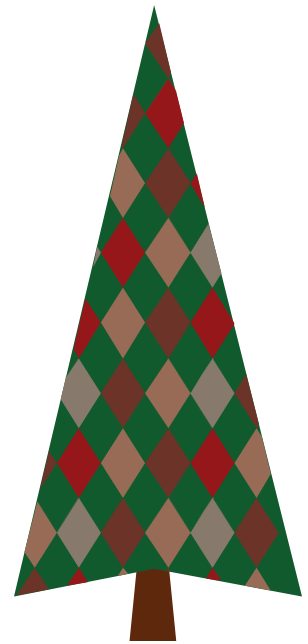
THANK YOU ALL!

I would also like to remind everyone that our annual Holiday Party will be on Tuesday, December 21 at the Knies home in Marbury. Thank you Jennifer and David for volunteering to host the party again this year. I hope everyone is able to attend!

Harry and I would like to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year! We're looking forward to all of the new adventures

in 2011.
Best Wishes,

Tina



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Meetings

..are held the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm.

Clearwater Nature Center 11000 Thrift Road Clinton, MD.

For more information, call Michael at (301) 297-4575.

EFMLS/AFMS News

Submitted by Jessica Dixon



This month there is an article in both the EFMLS and AFMS newsletters about creating an All-American club yearbook. All year there have been hints and tips about creating a successful club yearbook. This is something that we as a club can consider doing. It can be the perfect display at our annual shows and a way to archive the things we are doing as a club. This is by no means a simple task, but with the combined efforts and talents of our members, we might be able to create a great yearbook showcasing the monthly events of our club.



The categories for the All American Club Yearbook are: Club Information, Club Offerings, Reaching out to the Community, Government Agency and Legislative Relations, Publicity, and Publications, etc. There are areas that our club can work on in order to have not only a great yearbook BUT a great club.

Something to consider???

For more information go to: www.amfed.org

Upcoming Shows and Events

Submitted by Ralph Gamba

February 19, 2011: The Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club 21st Annual Mineral, Jewelry and Fossil Show. 10 AM – 5 PM. The Show Place Arena, Upper Marlboro, MD

March 5 - 6, 2011: The Delaware Mineralogical Society 48th Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show. Delaware Technical & Community College, Churchmans Raod (Rt. 58) Newark (Stanton) DE @ Exit 4B, I-95. Saturday 10 AM to 6 PM, Sunday 11 AM to 5 PM. Adults \$6, Seniors \$5, Juniors (12-16) \$4, Children Free. www.delminsociety.net

March 19-20, 2011: Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Montgomery County, MD. 47th Annual Gem-Mineral-Fossil Show. Montgomery County Fairgrounds. 16 Chestnut St, Gaithersburg, MD Saturday 10 AM – 6 PM, Sunday 10 AM – 5 PM. Adult \$6, Under 12 Free

March 26 & 27, 2011: Franklin County Rock and Mineral Club 33rd Annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show. Shalom Christian Academy, 126 Social Island Road, Chambersburg, PA I-81 to exit 10, rt. 914 to Rt. 11. Turn right (north .p mile, turn left onto Social Island Road., school on left. Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM Adults \$4, Children under 12 free with adult.

If anyone has information on any other local shows or rock events, contact Ralph Gamba at rgamba@verizon.net, so they can be included in this list.

SMRMC OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:
Tina League

VICE PRESIDENT (membership):
Tina League

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Larry O'Callaghan

VICE PRESIDENT (Field Trips):
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***If corrections or additions are needed, please contact Rocktalk Editor

November Minutes

By Polly Zimmerman

November 23, 2010

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

Visitors were introduced. Welcome to Margaret Stewart, Carol's Mom.

Michael asked everyone to sign the sign-in sheet.

Treasurer: No change

Membership: The membership is almost updated and it needs to be kept current. January dues can be paid early. There is no change in the cost. You can mail checks but please put dues 2011 in the memo on your checks. Mailing address is 11000 Thrift Rd., Clinton Md. 20735, Attn. Michael Patterson.

Christmas Party: See you there for a great evening. See holiday flyer.

Field Trips: Dec. 4th fossil trip. Dave is trying to get a date for a trip to JMU in January.

Joe showed his collection of fossils he had collected; teeth, bones, growth plates, and even a whale jaw bone.

Editor: Dec. newsletter sent. Jessica will send a flyer on the holiday party.

Webmaster: There were 383 hits on our website. Bob was encouraged to inter the contest for web sites.

Old Business:

Rock Show: Everything on schedule. Bob will send out emails. Larry will handle the ticket sales. Jessica will do the announcing of door prizes.

New Business:

Larry brought up the problem that BLM lands are being taken away for rock hunters. Paul is going to do some research for the club and find out if we can get involved as a group. 2011 Officers slate was presented and then tabled for completion during the recess.

Meeting was recessed at 7:25 for snacks and program.

The completed slate was presented and voting took place. It was decided that the holiday party was not the time for the voting. The new officers for 2011 are as follows:

President: Tina League

1st Vice President: (Membership) Christine Proctor

2nd Vice President (Field Trips) Dave Lines

3rd Vice President (Programs) Linda Holden

Rock Talk Editor – Jessica Dixon

WebMaster - Bob Davidson

Congratulations to the new officers.

Willows Beach Fossil Hunt–December 4, 2010

By Dave Lines



Twenty four (24*) hardy club members showed up at 7:00 a.m. at Monty and Cheryl's home on a chilly Saturday in early December to search for fossils at Willows Beach along the Chesapeake Bay in northern Calvert County, Maryland. This day was special because it had the lowest *predicted* low tide for the whole year occurred at 7:15 a.m...

After a brief review of safety and rules (no digging in the cliffs), we all went across the street and followed a narrow path down toward the water. The Bay was calm and we had the beach to ourselves. The early morning glow was beautiful.

Voices from the younger searchers were soon heard ... "I found one!". As we spread out, the finds of small shark's teeth increased. They were especially abundant where drifts of gravel occurred along the sandy beach. Everyone who was willing to bend down and search carefully found plenty of teeth.

We stayed for several hours with the last folks departing around noon. No one found anything huge, but that evening, I counted my finds --- over 450 teeth, plus beach glass, shells and some fossil bone. A fun day.

*(Mike and Faith, Shane and Holly with their 3 kids, Mary B., Josh and Shelley, Laurel and Linda and Kai, Tom H., Dave, Sandy, Tom P., Christine, Cheryl, Mike and Patrick, Ann, Rich, and Jim



2011 Programs: Ideas and Volunteers Needed

By Linda Holden

January 2011 is almost upon us. It's that time to start planning for the programs we would like to see in the coming year. In order to have programs that are interesting to our members, we are looking for your input of ideas and participation. Do you have suggestions for programs you would like to see? Perhaps you know a guest speaker who would be willing to come and share what they know with our club. Do you have a DVD or recorded program that you think the members would enjoy? Have you gone on an adventure searching for rocks and minerals that you could tell us about? Do you have certain questions that you would like to have answered? We have quite a few members who have many years of experience, knowledge, and expertise that we can tap into. Please give some serious thought to what would be of benefit to you and our club members. I would appreciate you writing down your ideas and giving them to me at our next meeting in January.



In order to have an interesting and successful year of programs, **we need volunteers willing to present a program.** You could even team up with others to do a joint presentation. There are plenty of possibilities. Choose a subject you think others would enjoy. Programs should be about 30-40 minutes. Allow time for questions and for the members to see any specimens you may have. We have had many fascinating programs over the years. Certainly, Larry O'Callaghan did an excellent job in 2010. It will be a tough act to follow! Can I count on you to step up and share with us this year? If you have done a program in the past, do you have something else you could share? I'm looking forward to filling this coming year with many new and informative programs, but I can't do it without everyone's support. A big thank you to Bob Davidson and Joe Davis for volunteering already. I have eight (8) slots yet to fill. I will be sending around a sign-up sheet at our January meeting. Hopefully, we will have plenty of volunteers!!

Morefield Mine Minerals Wordsearch

By Ralph Gamba

Just because you couldn't make it to Morefield does not mean you can't have the fun of finding Morefield Mine minerals. The puzzle below has 51 Morefield Mine minerals just waiting to be found. The mineral list is below the puzzle. They are all across or down, none sideways, backwards or up. Be careful. There are "leaverittes", words that look like valid minerals, but aren't. Good luck in your prospecting!

B	I	O	T	I	T	E	P	P	R	O	S	O	P	I	T	E	G	U	L	D	I	P	Z	H	S	I	C	E	A
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M	E	M	I	M	R	I	N	E	P	H	L	I	H	T	E	T	E	C	C	O	P	I	O	P	A	B	T	H	N
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[Albite](#) [Almandine](#) [Anorthite](#) [Bermanite](#) [Bertrandite](#) [Beryl](#) [Biotite](#) [Bismutite](#)
[Brockite](#) [Cassiterite](#) [Cerussite](#) [Chiolite](#) [Columbite](#) [Cryolite](#) [Elpasolite](#) [Euclase](#) [Euxenite](#) [Fluellite](#) [Fluorite](#) [Galena](#)
[Helvite](#) [Hollandite](#) [Illite](#) [Ilmenite](#) [Kaolinite](#) [Lead](#) [Microcline](#) [Molybdenite](#) [Muscovite](#) [Orthoclase](#) [Pachnolite](#)
[Phenakite](#) [Phosphophyllite](#) [Prosopite](#) [Pyrite](#) [Quartz](#) [Ralstonite](#) [Rutile](#) [Samarskite](#) [Schorl](#) [Spessartine](#) [Spodumene](#)
[Strengite](#) [Tantalite](#) [Thomsenolite](#) [Titanite](#) [Topaz](#) [Triplite](#) [Weddellite](#) [Zinnwaldite](#) [Zircon](#)

Message from the Editor

By Jessica Dixon

It's the close of another year. It's that time of year when giving is at its peak, when we celebrate with family and friends, and when we reflect on all the last year has brought.

I know this year has been truly exciting for me. My wedding and honeymoon was the highlight of my year. I enjoyed traveling to Hawaii and experiencing an amazing volcano! The geology of those islands is completely fascinating.

I am looking forward to 2011 and all the wonderful memories that it will bring. I hope that it brings many to all of you as well. I enjoy going through the trip reports and experiencing trips I am unable to attend vicariously through other members. Thank you to the loyal writers of trip reports! I look forward to the next year of trips and the amazing finds they will hopefully bring.

As we come to the beginning of another year, please keep in mind that the club needs you to participate in its success. Our officers do a wonderful job keeping things going, but it's all of our members who help our officers do their jobs. Please look at Linda's piece on page 5 and consider what you can do next year for programs and refreshments.

Also consider writing something for the newsletter. I know I say it all the time, but it is wonderful to have educational articles included in the monthly newsletter as well as the trip reports. If there is something you want to know, do some research and write a piece. Remember that I am here if you need help getting an idea off the ground or setting up how your article will look. Chance's are, if you want to know, somebody else does too!

Hopefully we will see everyone at the holiday party at the Knies' home in Marbury. Remember it begins at 6:00 on December 21st. We always have a wonderful time and wonderful food. Gifts for the gift exchange should be rock/fossil related. If you aren't able to attend, have a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year and we'll see you at the next meeting in January.

Happy



Holidays!



ROCKTALK

Clearwater Nature Center
Maryland-National Capital Park &
Planning Commission
11000 Thrift Road

**Next Meeting
December 21, 2010
6:00 PM**

We're on the web:

SMRMC.org

December's
Refreshments/
Programs

HOLIDAY PARTY!!!

January 21, 2010

6:00 pm

David and Jennifer Kneis' home in Marbury MD

Bring a dish to pass and a \$10.00 gift for the gift exchange.



You should have received the holiday party flyer in your email already. The flyer contains directions to the party. **If you need those directions, please email Jessica at rocktalkeditor@yahoo.com**