



Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club



ROCK TALK

MAR 2023

28 MARCH 2023 at 1900 (7 PM)
Meeting at OLD WALDORF SCHOOL
(next to the Waldorf JayCees Hall)
North of the RT 301 / RT 5 Intersection

March Program

**"We Have Purple!!
A New Find of Purple Apatite at Maine's
Pulsifer Quarry" Bob Farrar**

It's about a new find of purple apatite at the Pulsifer Quarry in Maine that I witnessed, and participated in, last summer. The Pulsifer Quarry is the most famous apatite locality in North America, if not the world. Until last summer, no apatite had been found there in 26 years. The new find shows that this famous locality is not extinct, and hopes are high for more specimens in the future. *Bob Farrar*

EDITOR'S CORNER

We currently have an opening for the Vice President/Membership Chairperson. Those that would like to take this challenge on to expand/maintain the membership levels the club is enjoying *please* contact Joe Davis!

Our By-Laws are currently being reviewed for a much needed update. The March business meeting will have time dedicated for club members to discuss the proposed changes and vote on the final edition. This is YOUR club. Please attend to voice your concerns and approval of the revised charter. Never know when the "40 pound heads" making changes leaves out something very obvious!!

IN THIS EDITION

The "Last" visit to the Morefield Gem Mine?
WildAcres Workshop
A Child's Creativity
State Fossils

JAN/FEB 2023 MINUTES

SMRMC JAN/FEB 2022 MINUTES

Old Waldorf School, Waldorf, MD

No meeting was held nor scheduled in January nor February 2023. But everyone should be looking forward to the 28 March 2023 meeting. Much will be happening!
Dress Warmly!!

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2022 / 2023 PROGRAMS/REFRESHMENTS SCHEDULE		
MONTH	PROGRAM	REFRESHMENTS
28 MAR 2023	"We Have Purple. A New Find of Purple Appetite at Maine's Pulsifer Quarry" - Bob Farrar	Paul & Linda
25 APR 2023	Quarry Safety - Rich Simcsak	Paula & Joe
23 MAY 2023	Rock Tumbling Basics - Kenny Jameson	Teresa & Milton
27 JUN 2023	TBD	Ralph G
25 JUL 2023	Geode Cracking - Jim White	Jim W
22 AUG 2023	Annual Auction	Pot Luck (??)
26 SEPT 2023	TBD	TBD
24 OCT 2023	"Remnants of Ancient Life" Dale Greenwalt will discuss his new book, and book signing	TBD
28 NOV 2023	TBD	TBD
TBD DEC 2023	Christmas Party	Pot Luck

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

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 implore the club members - please think/volunteer programs for the club. This includes those ever fantastic snacks and drinks that are brought in. Susan will be estatic if you can assist in ANY WAY for programs or refreshments!!.

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.

Calendar of Events /ODDS AND ENDS

March 10-11, 2023 - Richboro, PA - 47th Annual Micromount Symposium hosted by the Leidy Micromount Society. Two Day event: Friday March 10, 2023, noon to 6pm & Saturday, March 11th, 2023, 9am to 6pm. Same NEW location: Advent Lutheran Church, 45 Worthington Mill Rd, Richboro, Pa. 18954. Two Speakers: Friday- Brittany A. Cymes, Ph.D TOPIC: Microscopy of Solar Wind Particles Trapped in Lunar Surface Minerals. Saturday - Robert A. Carlton, Ph.D Topic: Mineral Analysis for the Micro-Mineral Collector. Table space (for two days): \$25.00 & \$40.00 (full table, 6ft). Visitor's Fee (no table):\$5.00 Friday & \$10.00 Saturday (includes lunch) Reservations/ Admission: Make checks payable to; Don McAlarnen, 916 Senator Rd, East Norriton, PA 19403 (610) 584-1364 Questions: Email: donmcalarnen@outlook.com

March 11-12, 2023 - NYC, NY -NY Mineralogical Club Spring Show The School of Fashion Industries Gym; 3rd Floor 225 W. 24th Street, NYC, NY 10001 Times: Saturday 10-6, Sunday 11-5
<http://www.newyorkmineralogicalclub.org>

March 18-19, 2023 - Gaithersburg, MD - Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Montgomery County MD., Inc., Montgomery County Fairgrounds, 16 Chestnut, Gaithersburg, MD 20877. Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Sunday 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM. For more information visit <http://www.glmsmc.com/>

March 25-26, 2023 – Plymouth Meeting, PA - 2023 Mineral Treasures and Fossil Fair sponsored by the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society and Delaware Valley Paleontological Society. Lulu Temple, 5140

Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA., (PA Turnpike, exit 333; or I-476, exit 20) Free Parking. Saturday March 25, 10 am to 5 pm; Sunday, March 26, 10 am to 4 pm. Adults: \$7.00. Kids 12 and under: \$2.00; Uniformed scouts and troop leaders free. Special Features: On both days a line-up of distinguished professional speakers will be presented. In addition, there will be fossil and mineral displays, educational materials, door prizes and a food concession. Thirty dealers will offer fossils, minerals, crystals, and jewelry from all over the world, as well as books, decorative items, and other merchandise. Demonstrations of microspecimens will be presented throughout the show by the Leidy Microscopical Society. Young visitors can enjoy the annual fossil dig for children, and the kid's corner with free mineral gifts. Information: www.phillyrocks.org. Contact: Cheryl Leibold, cleibold@verizon.net.

March 25-26, 2023 -- Wysox, PA -The 53rd Annual Che-Hanna Rock and Mineral Club will be held on March 25(9-5) and 26(10-4) at the Wysox Vol. Fire Hall, 111 Lake Rd., Wysox, PA. Admission adults - \$3.00 , students - \$1.00 , under 8 free. Contact Bob McGuire - 570-928-9238 uvbob1942@gmail.com

March 25-26, 2023 - Chambersburg , PA - Franklin County Rock and Mineral Club Show - Venue: Eugene C. Clarke Jr Community Center, 235 South 3rd St., Chambersburg , PA 17201 Exit 18 off I-81, West on Rt. 30, Left at 3rd Street. Saturday 10am to 5pm, Sunday 10am to 4pm. Website: <https://www.facebook.com/Franklin-County-Rock-and-Mineral-Club-1601767103396099/>

April 1-2, 2023 - Orange, CT - 48th Annual Show New Haven Mineral Club - Annual Gathering of Rock Hounds and Collectors - Minerals - Gems - Fossils – Jewelry - 21 Top Notch Dealers! Saturday 9:30AM - 5:00PM Sunday 10AM - 4:30PM, Amity Middle School, 100 Ohman Avenue, Orange, CT 06477

April 22, 2023 - West Friendship, MD- 32nd Annual Chesapeake Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show Saturday, 10 AM – 4 PM, Howard County Fairgrounds, 2210 Fairgrounds Rd. West Friendship, MD 21794 Free Admission and Parking, Minerals, Original Jewelry, Fossils, Rough & Cut Gemstones, Silent Auctions, Door Prizes. Free minerals for kids. www.chesapeakegemandmineral.org. Directions: From Baltimore take I-70 to Rt. 32 south; Turn right on Rt. 144 west Fairgrounds Road is half a mile on the right. From Washington area – Routes 29 or 95 North to Rt. 32 west/north; turn left on Rt. 144 west- Fairgrounds road is a half of a mile on the right

April 29, 2023 (Rain date: April 30, 2023) – Cherry Hill, NJ - 4th Annual South Jersey Gem, Jewelry, Mineral & Fossil Show. 1721 Springdale Road, Cherry Hill, NJ 08054. Saturday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, (Rain date: Sunday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM). For more information visit the website: www.sjmineralshow.com or Facebook: www.facebook.com/sjmineralshow

National Park Service - Fossils and Paleontology web site

<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/fossils/newsletters.htm>

Morefield Mine 1-21-2023

by Dave Lines (and many others)



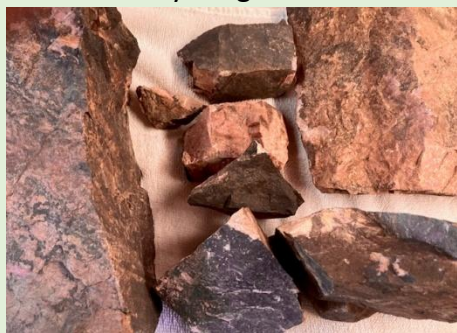
This special field trip to the Morefield Mine occurred because some of our club members who attended the November 19, 2022, Morefield Open House asked the owner (Sam) if it would be possible for our club to visit and do an underground tour. He responded by saying "Yes, the Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club is a great club and would be welcome." I called Sam in December, and we discussed the possibilities. He had a potential timing problem because the State Mine Inspector planned an inspection in January concerning the preparations to close the mine under a "temporary cessation" plan. So, I agreed to call Sam back in January when things had hopefully settled down.



Fast forward to January 2nd when I emailed Sam and Sharon with a field trip plan proposal. Sam called me back on January 5th to discuss the plan. Good news -- the mine inspection was postponed to early March. We decided on January 21st for a Field Trip date and, since it was winter, it would be totally "weather dependent". They would offer sales of five-gallon buckets of mine run from the "stock pile" at the mine entrance; allow us to dig in the stock pile and rocks would be priced by the pound; they would have sales of pre-priced rocks in the shop; sales of rocks in other piles outside; Sam would conduct a 1.5 hour underground mine tour for a maximum of 7 people for an additional fee of \$25 each.

It was absolutely a huge success. The owners and their helpers were all wonderful hosts – friendly, patient, and enthusiastic about the mine while ensuring everyone had a good experience. And the good Lord did a fantastic job with unbelievably good weather --- 50 degrees and sunny all day in late January was incredible. Thank you!

30 members attended --- and at least half had never been on a rock field trip before this. And another 5 or 6 had never been to the Morefield. It was an eye-opening adventure for them all. Lasting positive memories were made for some very happy rockhounds. Everyone found plenty of rocks --- the \$40 buckets of mine run were a big hit. Digging in the "stockpile" was very popular --- (Most had no idea how special this was). Folks had great fun finding specimens of many minerals. The store was brimming with beautiful rocks for sale. The large pile of Virginia rocks out back of the shop and the rhodonite stash out front --- all at \$1 per pound --- will be remembered for years to come by all who attended this trip. The buckets of amazonite in the covered carport shed out back was found by several very happy folks. It was hard to resist buying more of everything.



Those lucky eight (up from the initial limit of 7) folks on the underground tour all emerged with big smiles, effusive praise for Sam/Mark and the mineral treasures seen below. All of them were universally very happy they did it. There were a lot of pics and enthusiastic comments from the trip posted on the Club Facebook page. Our entire group really loved the whole

experience. I heard nothing but very positive remarks by all.



I asked for additional input for this report from those who attended, and the following is what those who responded had to say (in their own words):

From Renee --- Well, the Morefield mine trip was an awesome experience for me. I am new to the Maryland club, and this was my first club trip along with my first visit to this mine. Everyone was so knowledgeable and educating. The shop was very nice and had wonderful specimens to purchase. The prices were very reasonable!



They had hot coffee and bathroom facilities. A short distance from the side of the shop, and next to one of the mine shaft entrance, was a large pile they had brought out of the mine for visitors to collect from. They also had a dollar pile behind the shop with different minerals and rocks to pick through. The amount of Amazonite there is mind blowing.

The trip underground was wonderful! The amount of Amazonite and other gems and minerals down there was vast and beautiful to see. We began the underground tour at the 50-foot depth and was shown different mine shafts and areas where the Amazonite was found in larger quantities. Very surreal walking through a wet tunnel with the walls lined with

Amazonite, Smoky Quartz, Mica plates to name a few. We then descended another ladder to the 60-foot depth where we explored and were able to collect specimens to commemorate our trip down.

The whole day was so exciting and wonderful! I'm so thankful for the opportunity to visit the Morefield Mine and am looking forward to more trips with the Maryland club!



From Theresa E. --- I really enjoyed my first field trip with the group. As a novice I was totally ecstatic to see such a beautiful variety and display of minerals and petrified wood. Thanks!

From Katie M. --- So, I'll start by saying this was not my first trip to an underground mine. This past summer I went to the Kongsberg Silver mine in Norway. However, when I compare my experience at Morefield to my experience at the Kongsberg silver mine, I have to say Morefield was so much more authentic. I appreciate that it was more of a "working mine" and not a commercialized mine "idiot-proofed" for tourists. I feel so lucky to have experienced one of the last tours! Truly a great experience with great owners.

I especially loved bonding with Sharon over Maine.

I think feeling so lucky made the entire experience unique. There's just something about being in places most people will never have access to. Dave S. told me he had been waiting to explore Morefield Mine for about 7 or 8 years now and once we saw this opportunity, we decided to drive the four and a half hours. It was worth it! Meeting the owners Sharon and Sam was probably the best part, and the tour of the mine was just a bonus. My favorite mineral would have to be the aluminum fluorite I was lucky enough to find (not 100% sure of the name, I just know it was very light purple and I kept confusing it with another mineral). I also picked up amazonite, topaz, cleavelandite, REALLY nice books of mica, and some zircon. Most should be easy to label and having "Morefield Mine" listed as a locality should be a nice conversation starter.

I haven't cleaned the specimens off yet, but only because I'm not 100% sure of the best way (also I'm banned from using muriatic acid in my house, another story for another time). It might be helpful to include a guide as to how to clean off some minerals. I know muriatic acid would destroy some minerals but clean others and iron off would do wonders for others but not even touch some rocks. Or maybe some minerals just need soap and water! I always have trouble with that, and Google never helps.

I believe Dave got a bucket to take home and I'm starting to wish I did!

Everyone in the club was super helpful! Kim took some awesome pictures and Ralph (I believe that's his name) identified minerals and told me what made amazonite green! It was also cool to learn that some (not all) of the orange on amazonite was due to radiation exposure.

This was such an amazing experience. Thank you again for finding room (on the underground tour) for the both of us even though we were a day late signing up!



From left to right --- Mark, Sam, Dave S., and Katie M. (photo by Sharon Dunaway)

From Noah --- The Morefield Mine was my first trip as part of the SMRMC after joining the club at the show in Waldorf last November, and what an enjoyable way to start off my membership. Coming off the main road, I turned onto a narrow road lined by pine trees and drove up to the lot where some of the other members were already parked. Around 10am, we gathered for a team photo then proceeded into the shop. The shop had tons of specimens in display cabinets, not just from Morefield but from all over -- even as far away as Utah. The mine's owners, Sam and Sharon,

along with their son, were kind enough to welcome us with a briefing on the history of the mine and detailed some of the specimens we might find. After that, we descended to the mine which was slightly downhill in an open area. To get there, we passed an old, enclosed mine shaft. I tried to look down it and couldn't even see to the bottom, at least 30 feet. Some of the materials from the mine were pulled out into an open area where the group voraciously started picking through them.

Amazonite was everywhere, so bright and green that to my novice eye I thought it could be emerald. I took a gem class online to learn about the various types of precious stones so after hearing that garnet had been found there before, I focused my search. The main pile was getting a pretty good picking over and I hadn't seen anything that looked like garnet, when someone mentioned that lower on the hill were some old tailings from the 50's or 60's. I went over and searched for about 15 minutes and eventually found a small piece of garnet. I referenced it against my gem book and wasn't convinced of its identity, so I took the small piece of stone, about 1.5cm in length and a few millimeters wide, into the shop to check with Sam. He said that it was definitely garnet.

I was pretty happy to find something I had read about in my textbook and thankful to have a veteran eye to confirm it. When I returned, a woman from the club was still at the big pile with her two small children. They were thrilled with all the different stones they had found, so I handed my find over to them to add to their

collection of treasures that they had stashed on top of a large wooden spool. As a first timer, I didn't want to take any stones especially since I still have a very limited understanding of what to collect and hadn't purchased a bucket. After getting ready to leave empty handed, Dave L. dragged me into the shop where Sam was generous enough to give me a large piece of Amazonite (*) to take home. My collection now totals 2 pieces; Unakite from Rose River around Madison, VA that one of the shop owners at the show gave me, and the similar sized Amazonite, supposedly mined about 30' to 40' deep, also donated. I was just happy to explore the outdoors, meet other members of the club, and share my first small piece of success. *(The amazonite that Sam gave Noah was the refund of Noah's \$10 admission fee --- everyone paid an admission fee which was refunded in the form of rocks when they purchased some. It was a win-win.)

From Bernie --- The trip to Morefield Mine was very enjoyable. This was my second trip to this mine. While I am still a newbie at this hobby, I am finding that the people and places it is bringing me in contact with are very enjoyable and I know I would not have had these opportunities otherwise. My "prizes" are the rough material that appeals to my eyes. I cannot envision the cabochons, spheres, and other finish products that others see. However, the rough stones are still beautiful. While I have plenty of rocks to sort though, the piece pictured here is one of my favorites from this trip. I believe it is



Photo by Bernie.

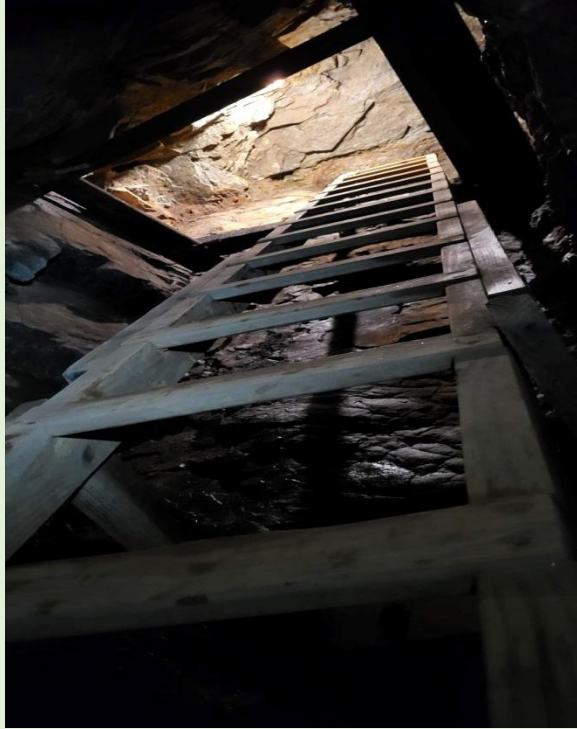
From Orion:

It was nice short two-hour drive to Morefield mine for my wife Kimberlynn and me. This was our first time at the mine and when google maps sent us down this unpaved road in the woods, we weren't certain we were in the right place (Kimberlynn was certain we were lost) until we saw another SMRMC club member.

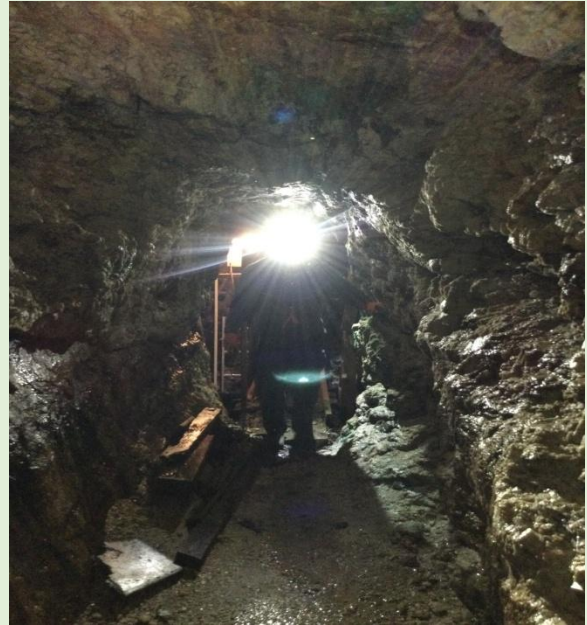
The first part of the day we spent hunting through the spoils pile. The most abundant minerals in the pile were Amazonite, Quartz, and Mica. Kimberlynn was interested in the Amazonite and found a few nice pieces. I found some nice pieces of smoky quartz with splashes of Amazonite. Some of the quartz have some rust staining. I have not decided if I am going to clean the rust (soaking in Rust-out) or just leave it as it is. My goal for collecting this day was to find a nice couple of specimens to display at work and home to serve as mementos of the day. I am especially interested in how minerals form in the host rock and think the Amazonite on the quartz is more interesting than just solid Amazonite.



The highlight of the day was most certainly the mine tour. The mine was an actual working mine and we had to make sure we had the right clothes and safety equipment. We already had the steel toed rubber boots and hard hats. These we had purchased for previous trips. The rubber boots were necessary as the mine was wet and muddy. There was standing water everywhere and many sources of dripping water. The hard hats not only kept my head dry from the dripping water, but served their purpose when I brushed past low beams. I purchased the head lamps, and they arrived several days before the trip. When I put the headlamps on the hard hats, I realized that it would easily slip off. I purchased zip ties and Velcro straps to try to secure the head lamp but settled on wire loops that I had previously purchased for a different purpose. The head lamps were necessary as there was no lighting in the mine.



muddy, so we had to use extra caution on the ladders.

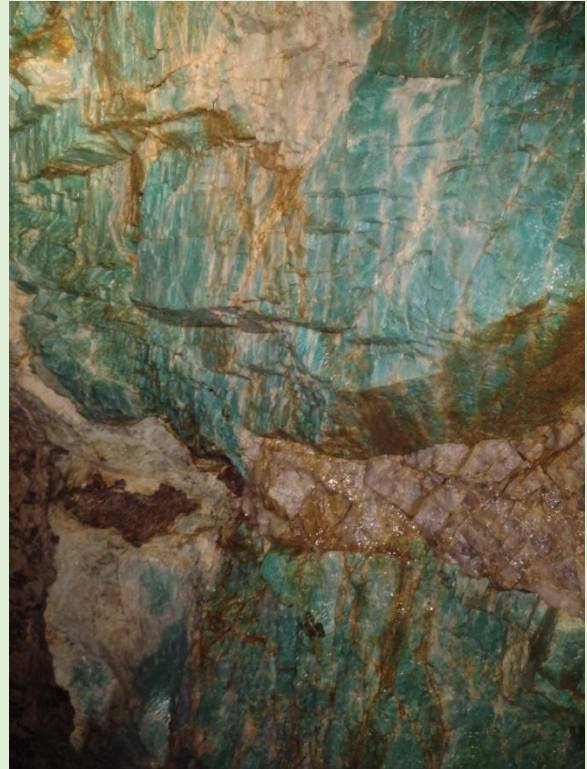


The most intimidating part of the tour was the ladders. There were three levels of the mine with a ladder of approximately 18 feet for each ladder. The ladders were a mix of aluminum expanding ladders and built in wood and steel. A slip and fall on these ladders would most definitely result in major injury. Except for the first ladder, our boots were wet and





We also brought work gloves in anticipation that the ladders would be rough and dirty. We also made sure we were not carrying anything in our hands, so our hands would be free for the ladders. I had my phone on a lanyard around my neck, which I tucked in my jacket when climbing the ladders. Climbing the ladders was intimidating, but we took our time and made it safely through and got a workout doing so.



The mine itself was an amazing site. There was abundant Amazonite on the walls and ceilings in the host rock. We took many pictures, but the pictures only captured part of the majesty of what we saw with our eyes. Our tour guide explained all that we saw and answered all our questions as we slowly made our way through the mine. After about three hours, we emerged from the mine a little tired and a little wet and muddy.





“Our” (Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club) thank you note to Sam and Sharon read in part:

“You were generous and friendly hosts as always. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity. Thank you!! And thank you for your willingness to not only share your mine and its treasures, but to do all the hard work (before and after) necessary to make our trip a reality. In your 26 years of ownership, you made the Morefield Mine a beloved icon in the hearts of thousands of rockhounds.”

As for the future of the Morefield, I heard Sam mention (a bit nostalgically) as he emerged with the last part of the underground tour: “This is probably the last group who will ever do this.”

**WILDACRES 50TH ANNIVERSARY
WORKSHOP**

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Was one of your New Year’s resolutions to make that trip to Wildacres this year?

The clock is ticking, marking off the minutes and hours before the EFMLS Workshops’ 50TH year at Wildacres this May 15-21. There are plenty of spaces to be filled. If you have never been to an EFMLS Wildacres Workshop, this May would be an ideal time to find out why so many people rave about the week and return year after year. In addition to the regular activities (classes, lectures by the speaker-in-residence, tailgate, auction, etc.), special activities are being planned to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Wildacres workshops. You have to be there to participate in the activities.

The instructors are superb and well-known. Want to know what classes are being offered, who is teaching them, see the following list. Attached is a “Class Schedule” that gives detailed information about each class.

- **Chainmaille—Jim Hird**
- **Faceting—Bernie Emery**
- **Gem Tree Art—Linda Boronczyk**
- **Intarsia—Chuck Bruce**
- **Mineral ID--Mike Wise of the Smithsonian Institute**

• **Silversmithing—Basic and intermediate—Richard Meszler.**

• **Soapstone Carving—Ken Valko**

• **Wire Wrapping—Jacolyn Campbell**

A registration form is attached. We have also added this information on the 50th Anniversary session at Wildacres to the EFMLS Website (www.efmls.org/wildacres).

The fall Speaker-in-Residence will be Helen Serras-Herman. Helen is a world-known artist who hails from Arizona. She will give a series of lectures that are sure to be interesting, educational and fun. Read her attached bio.

Wildacres is infectious! Wildacres is a relaxing week away from the pressures of daily life and the hustle and bustle of car noise, blaring radios and TV's, etc. The retreat is in the mountains just off the Blue Ridge Parkway in Little Switzerland, NC. The "noises" you hear on campus are the singing of birds, people laughing and talking, and perhaps the playing a musical instrument along with the hammering or sawing of folks creating wonderful projects in their classes.

The cost for the week is more than reasonable at \$455 per person. Where else can you get room and board, instruction in a class or two of your choice, great food, and a chance to learn from terrific instructors and hear an excellent "Speaker-in-Residence" for that low a cost for a week? Add to that a chance to visit various locations around the beautiful countryside on mid-week Activity Day, enjoy (and bid

on) items at an always fun auction, buy or sell at the tailgate, etc.

There is not enough space here to tell you all the great advantages and features of Wildacres. Here is a quick overview:

- See for miles across the Blue Ridges from nature-bounded decks.
- Meet the nicest of people and form many lasting relationships.
- Sleep like a baby amidst towering oaks and pines.
- Reward yourself with super jewelry/cut stones/carvings/classes you make special.
- Have fun.
- Take home to your club and freinds wonderful tales of your special week.

Why procrastinate? Why not fill in the registration form and send it in today? Class sizes are limited, thus students for each class are assigned on a first-come, first-assigned basis. You definitely want to be assigned the class that is your first choice. What are YOU waiting for?

Registration is now open. Register today!

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact:

John Milligan, Registrar
(jmilligan@stny.rr.com)

Mark Kucera, Director
(mark_j_kucera@yahoo.com)

Wildacres Committee, Steve Weinberger, Chairman

A Child's Creativity at it's best



The club's youngest member, Ellis, took some of the material his grandfather brought home from Morefield Mine, Amelia, VA in January (see story pages 5-14) and made a beautiful art project for school.

In addition, this picture and video has been posted to the Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club's Facebook page.

**Atlantic Micromounters Conference at James Madison University
3 June 2023 starting at 1030**

For 2023, the Atlantic Micromounters Conference will be different. We will hold the Conference on Saturday, June 3 at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

The conference will start at 10:30 am, so that people from the DC area or similar distances can drive to Harrisonburg on Saturday morning without losing much sleep. There are many inexpensive motels in Harrisonburg if you want to arrive on Friday or stay over on Saturday night.

Dr. Elizabeth Johnson, Professor and Curator, will give a talk about the Phil Cosminsky and Fred Keidel micromount collections at 11:00, then we will break for lunch. (We will offer guidance on dining.) In the afternoon we will visit the *stunning* James Madison Museum Mineral Museum (in two groups if necessary), mixed with viewing and trading micromounts till about 3:30. For a preview of the JMU museum, look at the article in the *Mineralogical Record*, volume **51**, page 703, September-October, 2020. There are also some photos and information on the JMU website: <https://www.jmu.edu/mineralmuseum/index.shtml>.

Because of JMU rules, we cannot have dealers or an auction, but we can trade, and there will be giveaways. The attendance will be limited to 50 people. There will be no fee for the conference. Please reply to Michael Pabst if you plan to attend.
michaeljpabst@yahoo.com



Rhodochrosite. Sweet Home Mine, Alma, Colorado. FOV 12 cm. JMU specimen. Photo by Michael Pabst



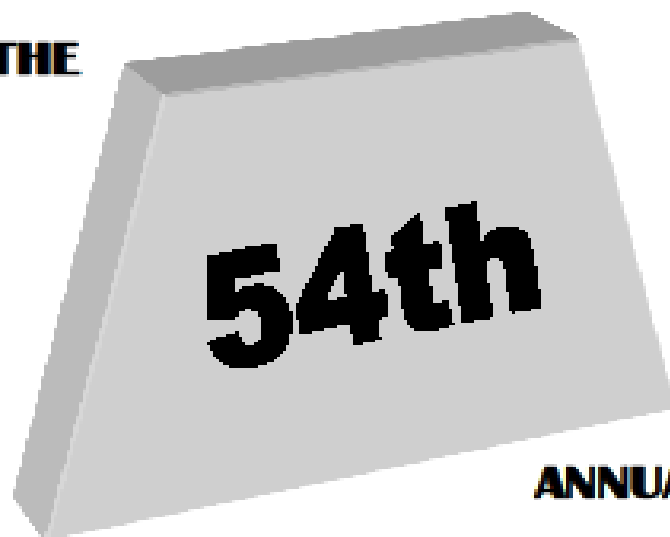
Turquoise. Lynch Station, Virginia. FOV ~10 cm. JMU specimen. Photo by Michael Pabst.



Berks Mineralogical Society

Presents

THE



ANNUAL

"WORLD OF GEMS & MINERALS"

GEMSTONES, JEWELRY, ROCK

MINERAL & FOSSIL SHOW

May 6 & MAY 7,
2023

SAT. 10 - 5 SUN. 10 - 4

Leesport Farmers Market Banquet Hall

312 Gemant's Church Rd. Leesport, PA 19533

Admission Donation \$ 4.00

MINERAL DISPLAYS
ACTIVITIES
EDUCATIONAL!

GREAT FOR KIDS!
THE BEST SHOW IN BERKS
COUNTY!

For more info, visit berksmineralsociety.com

Official State Fossils

<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/fossils/official-state-fossils.htm>



New Junior Paleontologist displaying the cast of a Devonian heterostracan fish. Which states feature Devonian age fossils as their official state fossil? (Photo by JP Hodnett, NPS)

A great place to start learning about fossils is right in your "backyard", with your official state fossil. This page lists all of the designated state fossils (and some official state dinosaurs and fossiliferous gem stones) as a launching point for learning about fossils in your state and neighboring states.

Do you know your official state fossil?

Alabama

Basilosaurus cetoides ([Eocene age](#), whale)

Alaska

Mammuthus primigenius ([Pleistocene age](#), woolly mammoth)

Arizona

Araucarioxylon arizonicum ([Triassic age](#), wood)

California

Smilodon californicus ([Pleistocene age](#), sabertooth cat)

Colorado

Stegosaurus stenops ([Jurassic age](#), plated dinosaur)

Connecticut

Eubrontes giganteus ([Jurassic age](#), dinosaur track)

Delaware

Belemnites americana ([Cretaceous age](#), belemnite)

Florida

Official state stone:

"agatized coral" ([Oligocene](#) - [Miocene age](#), coral)

Proposed state fossil (unofficial)

"Sea Biscuit", *Eupatagus antillarum* ([Eocene age](#),)

Georgia

shark tooth ([Cretaceous](#) - [Miocene age](#), shark tooth)

Idaho

Equus simplicidens ([Pliocene age](#), horse)

Illinois

Tullimonstrum gregarium ([Pennsylvanian age](#), soft-bodied animal — "Tully Monster")

Kentucky

brachiopod (Ordovician - [Mississippian age](#), shellfish)

Louisiana

petrified palm wood ([Oligocene age](#), palm)

Maine

Pertica quadrifaria ([Devonian age](#), plant)

Maryland

- 1) *Ecphora gardnerae gardnerae* ([Miocene age](#), snail)
- 2) *Astrodon johnstoni* ([Cretaceous age](#), sauropod dinosaur)

Massachusetts

dinosaur tracks ([Jurassic age](#), trace fossil — tracks)

Michigan

- 1) *Mamut americanum* ([Pliocene - Pleistocene age](#), mastodon)
- 2) Petoskey Stone ([Devonian age](#), coral)

Mississippi

- 1) *Basilosaurus* ([Eocene age](#), whale)
- 2) *Zygorhiza* ([Eocene age](#), whale)
- 3) petrified wood ([Oligocene age](#), wood)

Missouri

- 1) *Delocrinus missouriensis* ([Pennsylvanian age](#), crinoid)
- 2) *Hypsibema missouriense* ([Cretaceous age](#), dinosaur)

Montana

Maiasaura peeblesorum ([Cretaceous age](#), duckbilled dinosaur)

Nebraska

- 1) *Archidiskodon imperator* ([Pleistocene age](#), mammoth)
- 2) mammoth ([Pleistocene age](#), mammoth)

Nevada

Shonisaurus popularis ([Triassic age](#), ichthyosaur)

New Jersey

Hadrosaurus foulkii ([Cretaceous age](#), duckbilled dinosaur)

New Mexico

Coelophysis bauri ([Triassic age](#), theropod dinosaur)

New York

Eurypterus remipes ([Silurian age](#), sea scorpion)

North Carolina

The fossil teeth of the Megalodon shark (Cenozoic Era—late [Oligocene](#) to early [Pleistocene](#))

North Dakota

Teredo petrified wood ([Paleocene age](#), shipworm-bored wood)

Ohio

The State Invertebrate Fossil—*Isotelus* ([Ordovician age](#), trilobite)

The large trilobite genus *Isotelus*, occurs in rocks exposed in southwestern Ohio.

The Fossil Fish of Ohio—*Dunkleosteus terrelli* ([Devonian age](#))

At an estimated length of up to 8.8 meters (29 feet), the fearsome *Dunkleosteus terrelli* was part of a

now extinct class of armored fish called placoderms. It was an apex predator during the latter part of the Devonian Period, also known as the Age of Fish, about 360 million years ago.

To learn more about *Dunkleosteus terrelli* and other prominent Ohio fossils, visit the ODNR Division of Geological Survey website at [Fossils in Ohio \(ohiodnr.gov\)](https://ohiodnr.gov/fossils).

Oklahoma

Saurophaganax maximus ([Jurassic age](#), theropod dinosaur)

Oregon

Metasequoia ([Miocene age](#), conifer leaf)

Pennsylvania

Phacops rana ([Devonian age](#), trilobite)

South Dakota

Triceratops ([Cretaceous age](#), horned dinosaur)

Tennessee

Pterotrigonia thoracica ([Cretaceous age](#), bivalve)

Texas

- 1) *Pleurocoelus* ([Cretaceous age](#), sauropod dinosaur)
- 2) petrified palm wood ([Oligocene age](#), palm wood)

Utah

Allosaurus ([Jurassic age](#), theropod dinosaur)

Vermont

Delphinapterus leucas ([Pleistocene age](#), white beluga whale)

Virginia

Chesapecten jeffersonius ([Miocene - Pliocene age](#), bivalve)

Washington

- 1) *Mammuthus columbi* ([Pleistocene age](#), mammoth)
- 2) petrified wood ([Miocene age](#), wood)

Washington, D.C.

"Capitalsaurus" ([Cretaceous age](#), undetermined theropod dinosaur)

West Virginia

- 1) *Megalonyx jeffersoni* ([Pleistocene age](#), ground sloth)
- 2) fossil coral ([Mississippian age](#), coral)

Wisconsin

Calymene celebra ([Ordovician - Silurian age](#), trilobite)

Wyoming

Knightia ([Eocene age](#), fish)
Triceratops ([Cretaceous age](#), horned dinosaur)

Access to Past EFMLS Newsletters!!

We've added a protected folder that will keep email spam bots from crawling the newsletters. <https://efmls.org/newsletters/> entry requires only a simple **password: blackopal** You can share this freely by email. It's not high security but will keep out spammers and bots

**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

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