

Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club





ROCK TALK

OCTOBER 2023

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

OCTOBER PROGRAM "BEER FLAT SOCIAL"

Our scheduled presenter for the October meeting, Dale Greenwalt, will unfortunately have to be re-scheduled to a meeting next year.

Instead, we want every rock club member to bring their favorite rock (or 2 or 3) to show and tell or a favorite rock collecting memory to share with the rest of the group. Visitors are also encouraged to bring something to show or tell!

IN THIS EDITION

Pics from the 2023 Show

Friends of Mineralogy -Virginia Chapter

Friends of Mineralogy - Pennsylvania Chapter

Four fossil dealers are charged with stealing \$1M worth of dinosaur bones from public land in Utah and shipping them to China for profit

Ultraviolation 2023 Flyer

SEPTEMBER 2023 MINUTES

Old Waldorf School, Waldorf, MD

September Minutes submitted by Teresa. Meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm by Vice President Sue.

VISITORS/NEW MEMBERS: Approximately 29 Members in attendance. New Members present: Brian Myers; Visitor: Gabe Coewere both welcomed.

SECRETARY: Teresa Jones submitted one correction to the published August minutes: Strike the second paragraph under adjournment. Kurt moved to accept the minutes as corrected; Ralph seconded; minutes were approved.

MEMBERSHIP: No Report

FACEBOOK posts/members: 397. Kurt encouraged folks to 'join' the Facebook ...educational postings are of interest on the site. Also to make posts to the site with samples of items that will be for sale at the Rock Show.

WEBSITE: Nothing new to report.

NEWSLETTER: Rich asked members to send him articles of interest and ideas of what they would like to see in the newsletter. He regularly includes details about upcoming rock shows from other clubs. In particular, he encouraged everyone to attend the Florescent Minerals Show listed in the newsletter. Details are found on the website RockChasing.com.

TREASURER: Greta reported on the financial situation, saying that there were still a few new membership checks to deposit. She reported that the club is in very good shape financially. The profits from the 'members auction' will be added to the account. Kurt moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, Seconded by Carole: Motion passed; treasurer's report accepted.

PROGRAMS: Are set for the rest of 2023. At our next meeting, Dale Greenwalt will present the program. Note: He will have copies of his latest book available for purchase. Jim and Lorna will bring refreshments. In November, tentative: Jill will present. Carole, Al, and Holly will provide refreshments. She encouraged anyone who has information on topics of interest to consider presenting to the group in 2024.

FIELD TRIP REPORT

Dave reported on the Recent Past Field Trips

Sept. 16 – Special trip to visit Harry/Tina's place near York, PA. Activities included a combo hunt for devil's dice, cookout/potluck, swap/sell, and treasure hunt (of H and T's extra mineral). 9:30 am to 4:00 pm. 33 signed up, 5 cancelled before the trip, 5 no shows, and 3 came who had not signed up. 26 attended, including 7 kids.

Sept. 23 – **TRIP CANCELLED DUE TO STORM**. Willis Mountain kyanite mine near Dilwyn, VA. Joint trip with many local and Southeast Federation clubs. Lynchburg, VA club was hosting this trip.

Upcoming Field Trips

Oct. 14-15 – On your own trip to Primitive Technology Weekend at Cromwell Valley Park, 2175 Cromwell Bridge Road, Parkville, MD 21234. Saturday 10-4, Sunday 10-1:00. Free admission. Group shares knowledge and hands-on experience in the replication of items composed of stone, bone, wood and natural fibers. (410) 887-2503 for more info.

Nov. 25 (traditional date) –(tentative) Collecting petrified wood in Odessa, DE. Sign-Up and additional details TBD later.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dave reported on job assignments and tasks for the SMRMC 2023 Rock, Minerals and Fossils Show on October 7. He reviews the tasks that members had signed up for. Friday, Nov. 6, 4-6 pm – set up tables. We need more help dedicated to taking down and stacking tables. Tricia, John, Greg and John volunteered to join the other volunteers for this task. We still need someone to man the doors on the day of the show. Also needed is a dedicated photographer to take pictures. Becky volunteered. Dave reminded us that the admission prices are \$5.00 Adults, \$4.00 Seniors over 65; \$3.00 for ages 13-17 and children under 12 no charge. Set up will be from 4-6:00 on Friday night. Members should arrive at 5:30 am; other vendors will enter at 6:00 am to set up (back door). Members are asked to park in the back. Last year, there was an issue with patrons not

leaving on time, as well as some vendors. We will make and announcement at 3:30 and again at 3:45 "the show is ending at 4:00. Make your final purchases." At 3:30, put a sign up and start taking down the fluorescent tent. This room had a major problem getting folks out. On the day of the show, someone is needed at the back door. It would be nice to have a couple more volunteers for the admission table so Teresa and Ralph can have a break. There will be a door prize drawing every 30 min. Polly will collect door prizes from the vendors and announce door prize winners.

NEW BUSINESS:

Sue began a discussion about the December Christmas Pot Luck, in particular the date and place. Since our regular meeting date is the day after Christmas (Dec. 26), a new date should be set. A possibility is the 3rd Tues, Dec. 19. Kurt moved to change the Potluck date to Dec. 19th and Ralph seconded. Motion Passed. After some discussion, Susan will explore alternate ideas and see if the room is available on the 19th.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Greta moved and Ralph 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 refreshments provided by Tim and Lorna.

PROGRAM

Diane Etherton presented an informative program titled "A Layman's Introduction to Minerals". In addition to the information which included the definition and classification of minerals, she had an

extensive collection of the subject on display. Additionally, she gave a very informative handout which included a diagram of how rocks are formed and a Periodic Table highlighting elements which commonly form minerals.

Dec 19 date was confirmed to be our December meeting/pot luck date

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.

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2023/4 PROGRAMS/REFRESHMENTS SCHEDULE						
MONTH	PROGRAM	REFRESHMENTS				
24 OCT 2023	"BEER FLAT SOCIAL"	Jill & Lorna				
28 NOV 2023	TBD	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 JUNE 2024	TBD	TBD				

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 21-22—SOUTH CHARLESTON,

WEST VIRGINIA: Annual show; Kanawha Rock and Gem Club; South Charleston Community Center, 601 Jefferson Road; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; \$2 13 years old and up; Free 12 years old and under; Free Military ID; \$2 Family with discount postcard; Door prize drawings hourly - must be present to win. Grand Prize drawing: 1st prize \$150 gift certificate to use in 2024 show and 2nd prize is \$75 to use at 2024 show and do not have to be present to win. Geode cracking Childrens sandbags with rocks and gems Demonstrations; contact Robert Campbell, (304) 925-3974;

Email: nancamp54@hotmail.com; Website

OCTOBER 28, 2023 – FAIRLESS HILLS, PA – ULTRAVIOLATION 2023 – All Fluorescent Mineral Show. First United Methodist Church, 840 Trenton Road, Fairless Hills, PA 19030. Saturday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. For more information contact Lee McIlvaine 215-713-8020 or email:

www.uvgeologist@yahoo.com

Editors opinion: One of the best fluorescent shows one can attend!!

October 28-29, 2023 – Mount Bethel, PA - Mount Bethel Gem Mineral & Fossil Show.

Mount Bethel Fie Hall, 2341 North Delaware Drive, Mount Bethel, PA 18343. Saturday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Sunday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. For additional information visit: Website:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/574701 857546267/?ref=share November 18-19, 2023 – Lebanon, PA - Gem Miner's Holiday Gem Jewelry & Gift Show. Lebanon Expo Center, 80 Rocherty Road, Lebanon, PA. Saturday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Sunday 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. For additional information visit: Website: http://www.gem-show.com/

November 18 - 19 2023, Fairfax, VA: **Northern Virginia Mineral Club 31st Annual** Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show. Hours: Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 10am-4pm. Johnson Center, George Mason University Campus, Fairfax, VA. Adults \$6, Seniors (65+) \$4, Teens (13-17) \$3, Children 12 and under accompanied by an adult are FREE. Scouts in Uniform are FREE. GMU Students & Faculty with ID are FREE. Use Parking Lot A, enter Lot A where adjacent to the Johnson Center. Look for our Courtesy Shuttle & Designated Walking Path to the Mineral Show. Approximately 20 dealers with Gems, Minerals & Fossils for sale. Features: Demonstrations, Exhibits, Kids Activities and Door Prizes. Silent Auction on Sunday

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!!

2023 SMRMC Rock, Mineral, Fossil Show

Early return of pictures are here for the reader's enjoyment. If there are other photographers that have additional pictures, PLEASE forward them to myself and Bob Davidson, MR. WEBMASTER, for our usage and inclusion into our historical documentation.

I had to leave early but it appeared all got set up well, and people were enjoying the various wares that the dealers had for purchase.

Dave sent a "Thank You" email to those that assisted with the show "from start to finish". It appeared to be a successful show for many that participated.































News from Friends of Mineralogy Virginia Chapter -

In a message from the FMVA Executive Leadership Team, it was announced that, "Over the last three years, our team has emphasized the outreach components to FM National's vision regarding mineral education in an effort to 'promote, support, protect and expand the collection of mineral specimens and further the recognition of the scientific, economic, and aesthetic value of minerals.' As we have grown and endeavored to make an impact in our local community, we have come to realize that outreach and education about minerals and their importance is necessary at a much broader scale. There is a need to bridge the gap between scientists, the public, citizen organizations, and government agencies. Much of this need results from the lack of mineral education in schools and the absence of organizations in

our country focusing on the raw materials of modern society and their importance to industrial and energy policies." The Team feels that the framework of the organization limits the outreach they wanted to accomplish.

After careful consideration and extensive discussions, it was decided to refocus the organization's vision. They plan to launch this initiative under a new name, *Minerals in Context* (MC). The changes will officially take effect on March 1, 2024, and will be reflected in their online presence and official communications from that date forward. They intend to maintain links with the Friends of Mineralogy and the Eastern Federation of Mineral and Lapidary Societies.

Three areas that the MC will focus on are:

- Community Engagement Events
- Publications
- Communication Expertise and Support Services

Changes that will take effect are:

- **1**. Our speaker series will cease until further notice, but the videos of previous speakers will remain accessible on YouTube.
- **2**. The state mineral directory will be discontinued.
- **3.** Rockhounding 101 courses will be discontinued through FMVA. Instead, we want to support clubs with templates, resources, and materials to start their own courses locally.
- **4**. Our community group, Virginia Rockhounding, will continue to be maintained by our wonderful admins and

others who will continue to see that group flourish.

- **5**. Weekly community briefs and newsletters will cease for the time being, but we will provide relevant updates through social media when appropriate.
- **6.** Field trips are not planned for this new organization as it will not be our primary mission and focus. However, MC can supply informational background, in print or in person, about the geology, mineralogy, and economics of localities.

There will be three engagement pathways available for participation:

- 1. You are welcome to sign up to our new email list when it becomes available and volunteer for events and activities when opportunities arise.
- 2. You can join in on our focus groups, community discussions, and meetings if you are interested in supporting mineral education. Our goal is to start a broader effort to tackle mineral communication, so we accept and are open to experts and passionate educators across the country.
- **3.** If you want to get involved in leadership or run a project, you will need to reach out to our executive team, and we can discuss bringing you on to the group.

The announcement closes, "If you have any questions or concerns about this name change or if you would like more information, please feel free to reach out to us at friendsofmineralogy.virginia@gmail.com.

Thank you for your ongoing support and belief in our mission. We look forward to the future with enthusiasm and dedication!"

Friends of Mineralogy – Pennsylvania Chapter Symposium Nov 10-12, 2023 https://www.rasloto.com/FM/

SYMPOSIUM ON PENNSYLVANIA MNIERALOGY AND GEOLOGY and FIRST ANNUAL MINERAL, GEM, AND FOSSIL SHOW IN PERSON and ONLINE

Symposium and Show November 11, 2023 Field Trip November 12

University of Pittsburgh - Johnstown, PA The Friends of Mineralogy – Pennsylvania Chapter will hold their 2023 Symposium and field trip, and First Annual Mineral, Gem, and Fossil Show, on the second weekend in November. Mineral collectors arriving on Friday are invited to an evening Meet & Greet; bring your best find from this year to talk about. Those in attendance on Saturday will check in at the University of Pittsburgh -Johnstown's Heritage Hall at the Living Learning Center. Activities, including informative talks by knowledgeable speakers on minerals, geology, and mining in Pennsylvania and beyond, are planned. Online attendance is also being planned. The Mineral Show, held on Saturday only, is free admission for all. On Sunday, a field trip will provide an opportunity for mineral collecting at New Paris Quarry. The field trip is open only to symposium registrants who attend the Saturday afternoon safety briefing in person or online. Safety equipment will be required.

Speakers scheduled for **Saturday, November 11**:

William Kochanov, PG - Gypsum Occurrence in the Vanport Limestone, Lawrence County, Pennsylvania

Dr. Andrew Sicree - Minerals from Centre County: From the bottom of the quarry to the top of the Sky

Dr. Robert Altamura - A Model for the Cause of Iridescence in Plagioclase Feldspar and the Effect of Superimposed Polysynthetic Twinning

Chris Howard, Aleya Schreckengost, and Dr. Ryan Kerrigan - The Geochemistry and Petrology of the Bald Hill Bentonites in Southwestern Pennsylvania

Aleya Schreckengost - Examining Mineral Fluid Inclusions to Assess the Economic Potential of Allegheny Hydrothermal Systems

William Stephens, PG, and Stephen R. Lindberg - Minerals and Geological Investigations at the New Paris Quarry, Pennsylvania

All interested mineral collectors are invited to register and attend. As usual, there will be a silent auction, give-away table, and plenty of opportunities for visiting with fellow enthusiasts. Lunch is available on site by prior order (see registration form), at the nearby campus cafeteria, and at restaurants within short driving distance.

Please see the web site for registration https://www.rasloto.com/FM/whats-new November 10-11-12, 2023

Location: Friday evening, Nov. 10: Meet & Greet at Sleep Inn, 453 Theatre Dr, Johnstown, PA 15904

Four fossil dealers are charged with stealing \$1M worth of dinosaur bones from public land in Utah and shipping them to China for profit

By KEITH GRIFFITH FOR DAILYMAIL.COM PUBLISHED: 17:29 EDT, 19 October 2023 | UPDATED: 17:29 EDT, 19 October 2023

https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-12650947/dinosaur-bones-stolen-Wade-Willing-charges-

Utah.html?ito=email_share_article-top

- Feds charged fossil dealers Vint and Donna
 Wade and Steven and Jordan Willing
- Quartet allegedly pilfered protected dinosaur bones and sold them in China
- Some of the bones were converted into beads to manufacture jewelry

A quartet of fossil dealers have been charged with buying \$1 million worth of dinosaur bones stolen from public lands in Utah and illegally shipping them to China for a profit.

An indictment announced on Thursday by federal prosecutors in Utah hit the four defendants with 13 felony counts for allegedly dealing in 150,000 pounds of stolen paleontological resources, including dinosaur bones.

Two Utah resident were charged in the case: Vint Wade, 65, and Donna Wade, 67, who together own Wade's Wood and Rocks in Moab.

Oregon resident Jordan Willing, 40, who is the founder and CEO of educational supply company Blue Marble, was also

charged alongside his father, 67-year-old Steven Willing, a <u>Los Angeles</u> resident and Blue Marble executive.

The indictment alleges that the quartet conspired to purchase dinosaur bones from two unnamed, unindicted coconspirators, who illegally excavated and removed them from public lands.



A quartet of fossil dealers have been charged with buying \$1 million worth of dinosaur bones stolen from public lands in Utah and illegally shipping them to China (evidence photo)



Evidence photos shared by prosecutors showed jewelry labeled 'gembones' that appeared to be made from cut and polished dinosaur bones, destroying their scientific value

The four defendants are represented by different attorneys at separate law firms, all of whom declined to offer immediate comment when reached by DailyMail.com on Thursday afternoon.

Prosecutors say that in addition to selling over \$1 million in looted dinosaur bones, the defendants caused over \$3 million in damage with the scheme, including the lost commercial and scientific value of the bones, and the cost of restoration and repair.

Evidence photos shared by prosecutors showed bone fragments as well as jewelry labeled 'gembones' that appeared to be made from cut and polished dinosaur bones.

'By removing and processing these dinosaur bones to make consumer products for profit, tens of thousands of pounds of dinosaur bones have lost virtually all scientific value, leaving future generations unable to experience the science and wonder of these bones on federal land,' said US Attorney Trina A. Higgins.

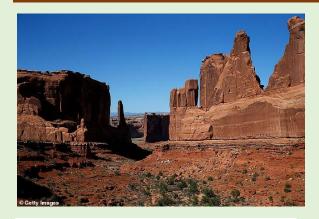
'The United States Attorney's Office and our law enforcement partners are dedicated to protecting paleontological resources throughout the State of Utah,' she added. 'We will hold accountable anyone who seeks to engage in similar criminal conduct.'



Investigators are seen with evidence recovered in the case. Prosecutors say that in addition to selling over \$1 million in looted dinosaur bones, the defendants caused over \$3 million in damage with the scheme



Bone fragments are seen after being seized as evidence. Prosecutors say the fossil dealers conspired to deal in 150,000 pounds of stolen dinosaur bones



Arches National Park in Moab, Utah is seen in a file photo. The area is rich in dinosaur bones but removing them from public lands is a federal offense

According to the indictment, the Wades purchased the dinosaur bones from unindicted co-conspirators who had removed from federal land, and stockpiled them for resale to national vendors at gem and mineral shows.

Those sales include \$1 million worth of bones bought by the Willings, who used their company to export them to China, mislabeling them and deflating their value to avoid US export bans, according to the indictment.

The indictment alleges that 'all parties knew or should have known that these paleontological resources were excavated, removed, sold, purchased, exchanged, transported, and received from Federal lands.'

The Bureau of Land Management and FBI are investigating the case with

assistance from the Grand County Sheriff and San Juan County Sheriff Offices.

'The Bureau of Land Management should be greatly commended in dismantling the illegal trade of paleontology artifacts here in our community,' said Grand County Sheriff Jamison Wiggins.

All four defendants are charged with conspiracy against the United States, Paleontological Resources Preservation Act violation, theft of property of the United States, money laundering, and other charges.

The defendants were scheduled for their initial court appearance on Thursday afternoon in Salt Lake City.

Leftovers

A Troy ounce is based on a pound of 12 ounces.

An Avoirdupois ounce is based on a pound of 16 ounces.

Diamonds are sold by the carat. The term carat is derived from the carob bean which was used as a small weight by diamond merchants in India.

1 Carat = 0.207 Gram = 0.00643015 Troy Ounce = 0.007054792 Avoirdupois Ounce

FLUORESCENT MINERAL SHOW

33rd Annual Show on SAT., 10.28.23



The Rock and Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County presents this fluorescent mineral show and sale at the First Methodist Church,

840 Trenton Rd, in Fairless Hills, PA 19030.

Only 2 miles from the new Route 295 and 10 miles from the Philadelphia/Rt 1 exit of the Pa Turnpike

Saturday, October 28, 2023 9am to 4pm

Alternating Periods of Room Darkness and Light







Door Prizes. Snacks and beverages available

\$3.00 admission; All kids under 12 free with paying adult

For Dealer information call Lee McIlvaine at 215.713.8020 or email uvgeologist@yahoo.com; \$30 per 8 ft table

FLUORESCENT MINERALS

S	С	Ε	Т	- 1	N	0	Т	S	Υ	D	R	Α	Н	Y
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To mark the 33rd ULTRAVIOLATION Show sponsored by the Rock and Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County being held October 28, 2023 (Prior page has location details), 24 minerals have been selected for this Word Search.

ANDERSONITE
APATITE
ARAGONITE
AXINITE
BARITE
CALCITE
CERUSSITE
CHALCEDONY

CORUNDUM
FLOURAPATITE
FLOURITE
HARDYSTONITE
HYALITE
OPAL
POWELLITE
SCHEELITE

SELENITE
SODALITE
SPHALERITE
TREMOLITE
TYUMANUITE
ULEXITE
YOOPERLITE
ZIRCON



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 Membership / Vice President

Susan Knower Vycki Borgnis

SecretaryWebmasterTeresa JonesBob Davidson

Field Trip ChairmanTreasurerDavid LinesGreta G

Rock Talk Editor FACEBOOK Coordinator

Rich Simcsak 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

