Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club

ROCK TALK JULY 2025

22 JULY 2025 at 1900 (7:00 PM)
Meeting at OLD WALDORF SCHOOL
(next to the Waldorf JayCees Hall)
North of the RT 301 / RT 5 Intersection

JULY PROGRAM

Evidence for Predation by Sharks in the Fossil Record - Dr Stephen Godfrey !

This will be the second time DR Godfrey has honored us with his knowledge of the Prehistoric Sharks that lived in our area. His brief promises to be another outstanding discussion and learning experience. A meeting that should not be missed!!

IN THIS EDITION

SMRMC Show Flyer
Atlantic Coast Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, and Fossil Show Flyer
Lynchburg Club Show Flyer
Blue Mineral Word Search

SMRMC MINUTES

Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club June 24, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Sue Knower

The meeting was called to order by President Tim Smith at 7:08 pm.

ATTENDANCE – 21; no guests, one new member

SECRETARY– Minutes in June Rock Talk. Tim made motion to approve and Dave seconded motion. Minutes approved.

TREASURER– Greta reported the Club Treasury has sufficient funds for operations. Meeting room rental has been paid.

FACEBOOK GROUP – Kurt reported 844 members.

PROGRAMS - Jill said the program calendar is almost full, still need program for November. We need someone for snacks for Sept, Nov. See Jill to sign up. (Diane volunteered for Nov)

FIELD TRIPS - Dave reported on recent and upcoming field trips Folks on the list for the July 26 trip need to reply to Dave's email.

General Note: Dues must be paid up to date to attend field rips (due to Insurance Rules).

Recent Past Field Trips -

May 31 - **US Silica Mine - Monteplier, VA** for Silver Flash Moonstone, bronzeite, ilmenite, rutile, and garnets. Had a 12 person

limit per Mine Supervisor. (*Trip report was published in the June ROCK TALK and on the SMRMC website.*)

Upcoming Field Trips -

June - No trips scheduled.

26 July - National Limestone Quarries (2), Middleburg and Mount Pleasant Mills, PA. for calcite, celestite, strontianite, fluorite, cave onyx, wavellite, fossil snails. No limit on the number of attendees. Must sign up with Dave at the club meeting or by email NLT July 15 (19 members already signed up, but only 10 have confirmed. I have sent out 2 emails to those who have not confirmed, but no replies???)

EDITOR'S NOTE - *This is a trip that has a 99% probability that people WILL find specimens. Please review past trip reports on the website for former results at the quarry.*

August 23 - Contrary Creek, near Mineral, VA for garnets, gold, magnetite, actinolite, etc. Sign up by email *AFTER trip announcement comes out*.

Will send Trip announcement in July. Save date if you want to go.

- September TBD - Kyanite Mining Corporation, Willis Mountain Mine, Dilwyn, VA. Kyanite xls (Blue, White, or Gray), iridescent hematite, UV reactive massive kyanite, pyrite, quartz, mica, rutile, and 29 various associated minerals.

Long Range Trips

6-13 October (firm) Long range trip to MT IDA, AR. Dig quartz crystals at Twin Creek Mine for 4 days, plus 4 days of driving to/from. Stay at AirBnB. You must make your own arraignments. Each person responsible for their own expenses, but group(s) can share housing, driving, food, etc. Quartz XLS pockets available at TWIN CREEK from $300 to $1000 per day (the fee includes 2 people who get one day to collect all they can from a pocket) -- up to 2 extra people per day per pocket allowed at $25 per day. Extra days in pocket will cost full fee. E.G., a $500 pocket will cost another $500 the second day, etc. Daily rate of $25 per day per person general admission to find your own XLS in a limited "public area" of the mine. Another option is $100 per day per person to collect in the area where Bobby Fecho is digging commercially - (Unsure exactly how this option works). Additional mines in MT IDA area includes Wegner's, Fisher MTN (Avant Mining). Plus Ron Coleman mine in Jessieville. (17 people have signed up so far.)

***EDITOR'S NOTE**: Before COVID struck....in October 2018, the club had MAJOR attendance at the **31st Annual World Championship Quartz Crystal Dig** and took home first place for club representation. The trip report is on the web (2018-10-13-mt_ida.pdf). There are other reports from folks that went to MT IDS. Enjoy those reads to enlighten yourself what could be accomplished there!*

http://www.smrmc.org/uploads/3/4/4/8/3448020/2018-10-13-mt._ida.pdf

***EDITOR'S NOTE (Again...)** All of these sites the club is planning to travel to have been visited before and are WELL documented as FIELD TRIPS on our web page **SMRMC.ORG**. By doing some "read-ahead", one can get a better description of what is ahead to collect and the terrain that will be encountered.*

NEWSLETTER – Rich is on vacation

MEMBERSHIP – 124 plus one new member tonight

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Auction – At August meeting, members can sell, anyone can buy. Still looking for someone to coordinate the auction.
2. Rock Show Committee – Greta got flyers printed, so please take some tonight and get them out into the world. 18 tables sold so far. $30 per table for members ends June 30. Club website is updated with show info.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Jill asked if the club could buy a stand for the club's projector, approx. $50. Kenny motioned to do this, Carole seconded, motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm with door prizes donated by Dave, and refreshments provided by Bob and Christina Tate.

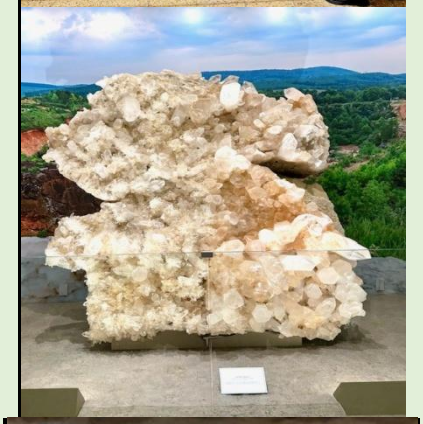
Tonight's program was Fluorescent Rocks and Minerals by Gary Lohman. Lots of oos and ahs!

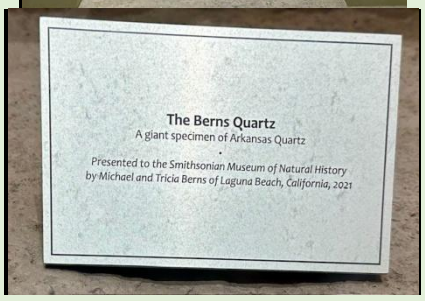
2025 Programs / Refreshments

Volunteers and topics are *desperately* needed to expand all members knowledge in various related topics. Having outside speakers is a great addition to our meetings, so if anyone knows someone that would speak on a relatable topic - **PLEASE** contact Jill. She will appreciate **ANY** and **ALL** leads. Always, members speaking on their adventures/knowledge is ALWAYS enlightening to the members and visitors.

Refreshment volunteers are usually easier for many to accomplish. But Jill still needs to fill the calendar quickly to ensure the meeting attendees stomachs do not growl during the programs.

Please contact Jill with any assistance you desire to extend!





IN THE JULY 2025 ROCK TALK:	
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2025 PROGRAMS/REFRESHMENTS SCHEDULE		
MONTH	**PROGRAM**	**REFRESHMENTS**
22 JUL 2025	**Evidence for Predation by Sharks in the Fossil Record - Dr Stephen Godfrey**	**TBA**
26 AUG 2025	**CLUB AUCTION (6-9 PM)**	**TBA**
23 SEP 2025	**Mammal Fossils in Montana - Dale Greenwalt**	**TBA**
28 OCT 2025	**Finds from Pulsifer Quarry in Maine - Bob Farrar**	**TBA**
25 NOV 2025	**TBA**	**Diane**
23 DEC 2025	**HOLIDAY PARTY**	**POT LUCK**

For Best information on forecasted Tide Levels
from Dave Lines

Recommend you keep checking the "water levels" on the NOAA website https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/stationhome.html?id=8577330 so you can choose the best location to look for fossils. The water levels at Solomons Island will be similar to the those on the Bay. Purse/Potomac River is 4 hours later. **Good hunting**.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS/ ODDS AND ENDS

JULY 19-20—ERIE, PA: Show and sale; Gem City Rock and Mineral Society; Zem Zem Shriners Banquet and Conference Center, 2525 West 38th Street; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults $4, children under 12 free; contact Robert Gallivan, (814) 454-6770; Email: gallivan427@gmail.com

JULY 26-27 LANCASTER, PA Lancaster County Fossil and Mineral Club 2025 Christmas in July Extravaganza. Saturday — 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Sunday — 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Unique Fossils, Trilobites, and Paleozoic wonders. Gems, Minerals, Crystals, and handcrafted jewelry. Eclectic curiosities, and ***Free Expert specimen analysis.*** Family-friendly Educational Learning Activities. Hot Food, **Free Parking,** & Handicapped accessible. Adults: $4.00 – Seniors (63+): $3.00 – Students K-12: $1.00 – Under 5: free. *Admissions purchased on Saturday are valid for **both** days of the event, and are by **cash only, please***. Farm and Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, PA. 717-392-4911 Email - silverfordinc@yahoo.com,

JULY 25-27—FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA: Show and sale; Franklin Chamber of Commerce/Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin NC; Robert C. Carpenter Community Building, 1288 Georgia Road; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; Adults $3; 12 & Under FREE; Door prizes, demonstrations, silver & gold jewelry, cut and rough stones, minerals, custom jewelry; contact Linda Harabuck, (828) 524-3161; Email: lindah@franklin-chamber.com; Website: www.visitfrankinnc.com

AUGUST 15-16 - LYNCHBURG, VA The Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg VA**.** 4th Annual Gem and Mineral Show at 715 Moose Lodge, 2307 Lakeside Dr, Lynchburg, VA. Friday 2PM to 6 PM; Saturday 10 AM to 5 PM. Will have "The Pickers Wheel", Rock Sluice, Door Prizes, 50/50 and Specimen Raffle. FREE TO THE PUBLIC. (Flyer is in this edition of the ROCK TALK)

SEPTEMBER 27 -28 - WEST FRIENDSHIP, MD. Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore. The Atlantic Coast 60th Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry and Fossil Show. Howard County Fairgrounds, West Friendship, MD. Saturday 10 AM to 6 PM and Sunday 10 AM to 5 PM. (Flyer is in this edition of the ROCK TALK)

OCTOBER 4 - WALDORF, MD - Show and Sale. Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club. Southern Maryland Rock, Mineral, and Fossil Show. 3074 Crain Highway (RT 301) Old Waldorf School, (next to the Jaycees Hall) Waldorf, MD. 9AM to 4PM. Adults, $3; Children 12 and under FREE with Adult. Visit SMRMC.ORG for a $1 Off Coupon. Door Prizes. Over 45 tables of Rocks, Crystals, Fossils, Handcrafted Jewelry, Lapidary, Minerals, Displays and a Fluorescent Tent. Questions: Contact Kenny Jameson through the Website: SMRMC.ORG. (Flyer is in this edition of the ROCK TALK)

NEWS STORIES WITH POSSIBLE INTEREST

Earth's largest iron ore deposits yield a 1.3-billion-year-old secret

https://www.earth.com/news/earths-largest-iron-ore-deposits-reveal-a-1-3-billion-year-old-secret/

Geologists uncover new evidence from ancient asteroid that hit the Chesapeake Bay

https://virginiamercury.com/2025/07/04/geologists-uncover-new-evidence-from-ancient-asteroid-that-hit-the-chesapeake-bay/

Couple visiting state park finds 3-carat diamond worth thousands

https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/crater-of-diamonds-state-park-tampa-couple-b2781486.html

Are these the world's oldest rocks? Fresh data confirm contested claim

https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-025-02010-1

Paleontologists Uncover Near-Complete Dinosaur Skeleton—and Its Skin Is Perfectly Preserved

https://indiandefencereview.com/paleontologists-uncover-near-complete-dinosaur-skeleton-and-its-skin-is-perfectly-preserved/

10,000,000 tonnes and glowing — It's all under this 55-million-year-old mine

https://www.ecoportal.net/en/all-under-this-55-million-year-old-mine/9481/

Geologists discover three new minerals in southwestern U.S.

https://www.earth.com/news/geologists-discover-three-new-mineral-specimens-in-southwestern-us/

PESA Club Field Trip to Calvert County — Request for Assistance

PESA, a mineral club to which I also belong which is based in Macungie, Pennsylvania, is desirous of organizing a field trip to Calvert County to search for fossils at some point by the end of the summer. PESA is a widely-respected and active mineral club known for its many field trips in Pennsylvania and states north.

If there is any SMRMC member who may be interested in providing information about potential fossil sites in Calvert County for PESA to visit, or perhaps assist the group in looking for fossils, please feel free to email me or call me at 443-615-2088.

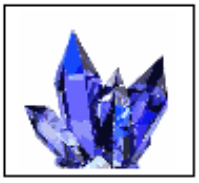
Greatly Appreciated,

Pat

Patrick Pannella
Member, SMRMC
Ellicott City, Maryland

SOUTHERN MARYLAND
ROCK, MINERAL, AND FOSSIL SHOW
SATURDAY OCTOBER 4, 2025
9 am to 4 pm
OLD WALDORF SCHOOL
3074 CRAIN HIGHWAY (Rt 301), WALDORF MD 20601
(next to Jaycees Hall)
ADMISSION DONATION: $3, CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER FREE WITH AN ADULT. Visit SMRMC.org FOR A $1 OFF COUPON

FREE rocks for all Kids. FREE Door prizes every 30 minutes.



THE HOLIDAYS ARE COMING
LOTS OF UNIQUE GIFTS
OVER 45 TABLES
***ROCKS *CRYSTALS *FOSSILS**
***HANDCRAFTED JEWELRY**
***LAPIDARY *MINERALS**
***FLUORESCENT TENT *DISPLAYS**

SPONSORED BY SOUTHERN MARYLAND ROCK AND MINERAL CLUB
WEBSITE: WWW.SMRMC.ORG
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK: Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club

VENDOR APPLICATIONS OR QUESTIONS?
CONTACT Kenny Jameson THRU WEBSITE: SMRMC.org

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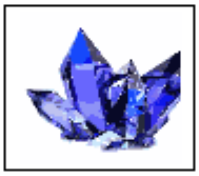

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the Atlantic Coast ★ ★ ★ 60th annual

GEM, MINERAL, JEWELRY and FOSSIL Show

presented by…
THE GEM CUTTERS GUILD of BALTIMORE

at
HOWARD COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
WEST FRIENDSHIP, MD

celebrating 60 YEARS

Saturday, September 27th, 2025 • 10 A.M. to 6 P.M.
Sunday, September 28th, 2025 • 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.

OUTSTANDING EXHIBITS ★ DEALERS ★ DOOR PRIZES
DEMONSTRATIONS ★ GEM MINE FOR THE KIDS

ATLANTIC COAST GEM, MINERAL, JEWELRY, AND FOSSIL SHOW

GEM CUTTERS GUILD OF BALTIMORE

Award-winning displays of jewelry, gems, minerals, fossils, and lapidary art.

Choice rough, slabs, tools, finished gems, minerals, meteorites, fossils, beads, and jewelry for sale.

Food available on premises.

$6 admission, $1 off with this show card (applies to entire group).

September 28th & 29th
at Howard County Fairgrounds

From Baltimore:
Take I-70 West to MD Rt. 32 South (Exit 80) to MD Rt. 144 West to Fairgrounds Rd

From Frederick:
Take I-70 East to MD Rt. 32 South (Exit 80) to MD Rt. 144 West to Fairgrounds Rd

From Washington:
Take I-95 North to MD Rt. 32 West (Exit 38 B) to MD Rt. 144 West to Fairgrounds Rd

-or-
Take US Rt. 29 North to MD Rt. 32 West to MD Rt. 144 West to Fairgrounds Rd

Learn more about the show, classes, meetings, and activities throughout the year at www.gemcuttersguild.com

THE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY VA
OF LYNCHBURG, VA
4TH ANNUAL
GEM & MINERAL SHOW
715 MOOSE LODGE
2307 LAKESIDE DR, LYNCHBURG, VA
FRIDAY, AUGUST 15
2 PM – 6 PM
SATURDAY AUGUST 16
10 AM – 5 PM
• The Pickers Wheel • Rock Sluice
• Door Prizes • 50/50 and Specimen Raffle
FREE TO THE PUBLIC

BLUE MINERALS AND GEMS - JULY 2025

By Rich Simcsak

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P	**A**	**U**	**E**	**T**	**I**	**L**	**A**	**D**	**O**	**S**	**I**	**R**	**M**	**D**
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Theses are few of the BLUE Minerals and Gems one can find in the world.

AQUAMARINE
AVENTURE
AZURITE
CALCITE
(COBRA) JASPER
FLUORITE
GARNET
HEMIMORPHITE
HOPE DIAMOND
HOWLITE
JADE
JEREMEJEVITE
LABRADORITE
LAPIS LAZULI
LARIMAR
LEALAND BLUE
LINARITE
MOONSTONE
OPAL
QUARTZ
SODALITE
SPINEL
TANZANITE
TOPAZ
TURQUOISE
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

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3074 Crain Highway, Waldorf, MD 20601

North of the RT 301 / RT 5 intersection

We're on the web: SMRMC.ORG
Also on FACEBOOK: Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club

SMRMC OFFICERS

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Tim Smith

Programs / Vice President
Jill Lee

Membership / Vice President
Carole Raucheisen

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