Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club

ROCK TALK APRIL 2026

28 APRIL 2026 at 1900 (7:00 PM)
Meeting at OLD WALDORF SCHOOL
(next to the Waldorf JayCees Hall)
North of the RT 301 / RT 5 Intersection

APRIL PROGRAM

QUARRY SAFETY

Rich Simcsak will be giving his annual Quarry Safety brief (third time) to remind those veterans and new-bees of the safety requirements we must meet with as GUESTS to the different quarries.

This month's ROCK TALK is "Dedicated" to the latest Chestnut Ridge trip. Six (6) people (four (4) **SEPTARIANS**) and one extremely cute dog had exceptional success this trip. Multiple trip reports are included for everyone's reading enjoyment.

Remember with Maryland "still" in the WINTER MODE, (remember what Punxsutawney Phil said) extreme low tides still have a possibility in the Potomac and Patuxent Rivers and the Chesapeake Bay. So be ready for that Dave Email warning about winds out of the North that magically make low tides even lower that could give a chance to find fossils and shark teeth. Enjoy the search!

SMRMC MINUTES

Minutes of Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club meeting on March 24, 2026

The meeting was called to order by President Tim Smith at approximately 7:00 PM.

Guests –- Kathryn King --- She is looking for a rock club that finds rocks. Ricky and his dad Peter –- interested in rock collecting.

Minutes of last meeting --- Approved. Since Club Secretary Teresa Jones was absent, we asked for a volunteer to take the minutes. Guest Kathryn King volunteered. *(Thank You!!)*

Treasurer's Report –-- Carole Raucheisen (reporting for Greta) said club sent 2 donations to the AFMS Scholarship fund in memory of recently deceased members Alton Jones ($108) and Terry Boswell ($118). The EFMLS liability insurance has been paid. Also, the annual AFMS and EFMLS dues have been paid.

Membership --- Chair Carole Raucheisen reported that club membership is 114 total (102 adults and 12 youths).

Facebook --- Kurt Knower reported 1,060 Facebook members.

Programs/ Snacks --- Diane Etherton will present tonight's program. April will be Rich Simcsak "Rockhound Safety". May will be "Jewelry-making" by (?). August program will be the club auction --- need someone to run it (and calculate and collect donations, winning bids, and percentage to the club). Needs additional program ideas and program presenters for June, July, September, October, and November. Snack sign-up sheet was circulated for upcoming meetings.

Field Trip Report --- Chair Dave Lines

Recent past field trips

None since last November. Winter weather was cold and snowy. Local fossil beaches were frozen, and ice covered for much of January and February. When rivers/Bay thawed, the tides were 1 to 2 feet above predicted levels due to south winds and rising sea levels.

Upcoming field trips

March 28 --- All day trip to Chestnut Ridge in Bath County, VA for quartz crystals. Sign up tonight. Final sign-up deadline is by COB tomorrow 3-25-2026. Trip announcement was emailed to all members by 3-12-2026.

April 18 --- Joint field Trip with Calvert Marine Museum Fossil Club (host) --- Petrified wood in Odessa, DE. Anyone interested should sign up directly with Bob Ertman. Trip announcement was emailed to all members on 3-14-2026.

May 16 --- (*new info since meeting) US Silica Mine, Montpelier, VA from 7:30am to 12:00 noon. Limited to 12 members (Adults only).

May 9 (FYI item) --- The Morefield Mine (closed location) will reportedly be a vendor all day from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm at the "Amelia Day Festival" in downtown Amelia, VA. Possibility of buying some Morefield Mine specimens like amazonite.

June 6 --- "SAVE THE DATE" --- All day trip to National Limestone quarries at both Middleburg and Mount Pleasant Mills. Calcite crystals, purple fluorite, strontianite, celestite, travertine (cave flowstone), wavellite, and fossil snails. Trip announcement will be emailed later.

Note: Discussion of James Madison University (JMU) mineral museum as a potential field trip.

Newsletter --– Rich swaps newsletters with 14 other clubs. March issues of Rock Talk and EFMLS News recently emailed to all members. Rich needs an updated Membership Roster. Also needs more member article/photo contributions.

Website --- No recent updates from Webmaster Bob Davidson.

Old Business ---

Kurt Knower said a volunteer is needed to coordinate the August Auction. Responsibilities include coordination, setup, and financial tracking.

Kurt provided a recap of recent Montgomery County Club rock show.

Attendees (?) had well-done name tags.

Specimens were high quality but expensive, including rare finds.

Kurt passed around some of his specimens he purchased at the show.

The author Sharon Lyon was at the show to sign her book Fossil Woman.

Kurt spoke about Clearwater Lapidary Club:

Focus: stone cutting, polishing, silver work, and jewelry-making

Open House: April 4 at Clearwater Nature Center in Clinton, MD

Members encouraged to join multiple clubs for broader learning opportunities.

New Business

Southern Maryland Annual Rock Show Planning by Show Chair Kenny Jameson

Annual Rock, Mineral, & Fossil Show scheduled for October 3, 2026.· Current format: 1-day event (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM).

Discussion Points

$500–$600 funding may be needed for yard signs and large "ROCK AND MINERAL SHOW" banner to improve promotion and increase attendance.

Discussion of possibly shifting to a Friday–Saturday format in the future.

Consideration of later start time (10:00 AM) based on other clubs' practices.

Current constraints: venue requires cleanup by 6:00 PM on Saturday and is unavailable on Sundays due to church services being held in the auditorium.

Decisions

Motion made and seconded to keep the 2026 show as a one-day event 9AM-4PM

Reason: planning and advertising have already started.

Additional Considerations (Future Planning)

Potential venue changes in 2027

Ongoing discussion: 1-day vs. 2-day show format

Reference to other show venues (e.g., Harmony Hall, West Friendship) as comparison models

Special Announcements

Member Maria Nopo, her mom, and dad attended the Tucson show and entered two Peruvian exhibits. She won some awards.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Dave Lines provided 25 door prizes. Thank you!

Snacks provided by Paul and Linda Holden. Thank you!

Program "Basic Geology and the Rock Cycle" presented by Diane Etherton.

2026 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 Diane. 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 Diane with any assistance you desire to extend!

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. **HAPPY HUNTING**.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

REMINDER – To ensure your membership is up to date, PLEASE download the membership form from the SMRMC website and follow the renewing requirements!! Up to date dues allows members to attend the field trips due to insurance requirements.

Greta will be ready for those that have not paid their dues at each meeting.

Mohs Scale of Hardness

The following is a chart of mineral gemstones and gemstone-like materials you're most likely to find used in jewellery.

Gemstone Name	Hardness	Gemstone Name	Hardness
Agate	7.0	Jet*	2.5
Alexandrite	8.5	Kunzite	7.0
Amber*	2.5	Kyanite	7.0/5.0
Amethyst	7.0	Labradorite	6.0
Ametrine	7.0	Lapis Lazuli	5.5
Andalusite	7.5	Malachite	4.0
Apatite	5.0	Moonstone	6.0
Aquamarine	7.5	Morganite	7.5
Aventurine	7.0	Obsidian	5.0
Azurite	3.5	Onyx	7.0
Beryl	7.5	Opal	6.0 - 6.5
Bloodstone	7.0	Pearl*	3.0
Blue Chalcedony	7.0	Peridot	6.5
Carnelian	7.0	Rhodochrosite	4.0
Cat's Eye - Chrysoberyl	8.5	Rhodonite	6.0
Cat's Eye - Quartz	7.0	Ruby	9.0
Chrysoprase	7.0	Sapphire	9.0
Citrine	7.0	Sardonyx	7.0
Coral*	3.5	Scapolite	6.0
Diamond	10.0	Serpentine	2.5-5.0
Emerald	7.5	Sillimanite	7.5
Fluorite	4.0	Quartz	7.0
Garnet	6.5 - 7.5	Sodalite	5.5
Goldenite	7.0	Spectrolite	6.0
Goshenite	7.5	Spinel	8.0
Heliodor	7.5	Sunstone	6.0
Hematite	6.5	Tanzanite	6.5
Hiddenite	7.0	Tiger's Eye	7.0
Howlite	3.5	Topaz	8.0
Iolite	7.0	Tortoiseshell*	2.5
Ivory*	2.5	Tourmaline	7.5
Jade	6.5 - 7.0	Turquoise (Stabilized)	6.0
Jasper	7.0	Zircon	7.5

* Not technically a gemstone or mineral these materials are organic but used in jewellery.

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2026 PROGRAMS/REFRESHMENTS SCHEDULE

MONTH	PROGRAM	REFRESHMENTS
28 APR 2026	**Quarry Safety by Rich**	**Ralph G.**
26 MAY 2026	**Hands-on-Lab by Diane**	**Kurt and Sue**
23 JUN 2026	**TBA**	**Amanda G.**
28 JUL 2026	**TBA**	**TBA**
25 AUG 2026	**CLUB AUCTION**	**TBA**
22 SEP 2026	**TBA**	**TBA**
27 OCT 2026	**TBA**	**TBA**
24 NOV 2026	**TBA**	**TBA**
22 DEC 2026	**HOLIDAY PARTY (Date may change)**	**POT LUCK**

.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS/ ODDS AND ENDS

TOPSFIELD, MA: **MAY 2-3, 2026 -** 2026--Annual show; North Shore Rock & Mineral Club; Topsfield Fairgrounds, 207 Boston Road, Rt. 1; Sat May 2nd 9-5, Sun. 10-4; General admission $7; $6 with copy of ad/coupon; Children under 12 free; free parking; contact Joe Weisberg, (781) 861-6653; Email: northshorerockandmineral@gmail.com; Website: www.northshorerock.org

LEESPORT, PA MAY 2-3, 2026. 57th ANNUAL World of Gems & Minerals. Leesport Farmers Market Banquet Hall, 312 Germant's Church Road, Leesport, PA. 19533. SAT 1000 – 1700, SUN 1000 – 1600. For moe info, visit www.berksmineralsociety.com

AMELIA DAY FESTIVAL MAY 9, 2026
9:30 - 4:30 - Moorefield Mine will be vending!
https://www.ameliadayfestival.org/

LITTLE SWITZERLAND, NC MAY 11-17, 2026 -: EFMLS Wildacres Workshop – Spring Session at Little Switzerland, NC. For information about the workshops and registration, visit www.efmls.org/wildacres.

FRANKLIN NC GEM AND MINERAL SHOW - MAY 15-17, 2026, Watauga Festival Center https://www.glwshows.com/franklin-nc-gem-show

MAYS LANDING, NJ MAY 16-17, 2026 - - Cape Atlantic Rockhounds. May 16-17 from 10-4. The show location: 3210 US Rt. 50, Mays Landing, NJ (Atlantic County 4-H Fairgrounds.)

SYRACUSE, NY: JULY 11-12, 2026 -: Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse - 59th annual wholesale and retail gem, mineral, fossil and jewelry show. Location: NY State Fairgrounds, Center of Progress Building; 581 State Fair Blvd., Syracuse, NY 13209. Sat. 10 - 6 and Sun. 10 - 4. Admission: $8, children under 12 free when accompanied by a paying adult. The show features lapidary and jewelry making demonstrations, hourly raffle drawings, 25 cent straw draw, earth science lectures, rocks, minerals and fossils from around the world, and a youth area with lots of activities for children including a sluice, soapstone carving, and jewelry making for kids. Family fun for everyone. For more information look on our website: www.gmss.club; Facebook: www.facebook.com/gemandmineralsyr or gmssrocks@gmail.com (Show Chair).

SALEM GEM & MINERAL SHOW, MAY 23 & 24, 2026
https://americangemshow.com/

LYNCHBURG GEM & MINERAL SHOW,- JUNE 26-27, 2026

ESSEX JUNCTION, VT JULY 18-19, 2026 - - Burlington Gem and Mineral Club, 45th Annual Champlain Valley Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show, Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl Street, Essex Junction, Vermont 05452. Dealers, exhibits, demonstrations, raffle, silent auctions, door prizes, mineral and fossil identification table, and children's activities. Sat. & Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5 adults (16-59), $3 seniors (60+), children under 16 free with paying adult. Refreshments available.

Free parking. Handicapped accessible. Info: Felicia Edwards at vtbgmc@gmail.com or http://www.burlingtongemandmineralclub.org/show.html

POUGHKEEPSIE, NY SEPTEMBER 19-20, 2026 - - Mid-Hudson Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. Gem, Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry Show & Sale! Gold's Gym - 258 Titusville Road Poughkeepsie, New York September 19 & 20, 2026 Sat. 10:00 - 5:00 / Sun. 10:00 - 4:00 SHOW THEME: "GEMS & MINERALS and CLASSIFICATION" 30 dealers – Minerals, Fossils, Jewelry, Beads, Gems! 6 Free Rocks for Kids at "Glitter Mountain" ! SLUICE at "Garnet Gulch" for Treasure ! FLUORESCENT MINERAL Display ! Earth Science SCAVENGER HUNT for MHV Students ! LAPIDARY DEMONSTRATIONS ! Displays of GEMS & MINERALS by VASSAR GEOLOGY MUSEUM and MHV Members WHOLESALE DEALER

WALDORF, MD 3 OCTOBER 2026 - 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: WWW.SMRMC.ORG.

EAST ROCHESTER, NY OCT. 24-25, 2026 - - Rochester Gem, Mineral, Jewelry-Fossil Show and Sale at Total Sports Experience, 435 West Commercial Street, East Rochester, NY. Event times: 10 AM to 6 PM on Saturday and 10 AM to 5 PM on Sunday. For more information, visit Rochester Lapidary Society.

NEWS STORIES WITH POSSIBLE INTEREST

This Suspected Meteorite Tore Through the Roof of a Suburban Houston Home
https://apple.news/AFyF1_BYWSFyt4woz6RC5Wg

Meet 'Junior,' the Giant Bison Skull That Crossed the Country to Star in New Exhibition at the National Museum of Natural History
https://apple.news/AHKhPnFvLTdWNlFWSPHBITg

Fossil with preserved soft tissue may prove that Darwin was right
https://www.earth.com/news/archaeopteryx-fossil-soft-tissue-preserved-flight-evolution-proves-darwin-right/

After 200 years scientists finally crack the "dolomite problem"
https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2026/04/260420015840.htm

Fool's gold isn't so foolish: Scientists find hidden treasure in pyrite
https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2026/04/260416032604.htm

One of Earth's most explosive supervolcanoes is recharging
https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2026/03/260329222930.htm

Chestnut Ridge Pocket Dig
by Tom Zunino

The first time that I collected at Chestnut Ridge I was 17 and found some nice quartz crystals in the dirt. I made a note in my rock collecting journal to return one day and bring a large hammer and chisels. Since that trip I have returned five times and each time I learn more about collecting at this site and where to dig. I have found some nice specimens over the years, especially the quartz clusters on sandstone. However, when I get them home and clean them, many of the crystals have dings on the points or show signs of weathering. When I was there in 2025, I made a promise to myself that if I go again, I'm bringing a 3-pound hammer, chisels and a 3-foot crowbar. My plan is to open a pocket and carefully try to extract a few nice specimens.

On March 28th I was on my way back up the mountain with Dave Lines and other members of the club. When we made it to the top, I went right to the spot that caught my interest at the end of the day during our 2025 trip. There were small crystal pockets all over this sandstone ledge. First, I cleared the brush and made a place to work. I exposed the front of the ledge to about 4 feet down. I could now see where the quartz mineralization was in the sandstone and where it wasn't. I went to work with my 3-pound hammer and crowbar removing rock from the ledge. It was slow going but the vugs were getting larger as I went back into the rock ledge. The crystals were very good quality, water clear and no signs of weathering or dings. They were small because the vugs were small. Then I saw an opening on the rock face. I probed it with the 6 inch deer antler that I use to remove the black dirt from the vugs. The antler went in and didn't hit the back wall or bottom. This showed promise of being a larger pocket.

As I carefully opened the pocket and removed the black dirt there were several loose crystals in the dirt. They were good quality and some double terminated. The

best part was no chips on the points. I continued to remove rock to expose more of the back wall and bottom of the pocket. On the back wall there was an interesting looking cluster of crystals that I wanted to protect as I began to try and remove specimens from the floor.

After working on the floor with some limited success, I was ready to try and remove the cluster from the back wall. After about an hour of careful chiseling and removing rock with the tip of a flat blade screwdriver, it was loose. I had it in my hand and gave it a light brushing to expose the crystals. It looked good. I immediately wrapped it in layers of newspaper to keep it out of the sun. I then placed it in my pack for safe keeping. At this point I took a much needed break. After my break I did a little more work in this area and found another opening in the rock. I did the deer antler probe, and it didn't hit the back wall or bottom. It was getting late in the day, and it was time to pack up, cover up the dig areas with leaves and get down the mountain. My hope is to return again one day and see what treasures that pocket contains.

These are pictures of the back wall cluster. The crystals are very clear and don't show well in the color photographs, so I added a black and white picture to better show the clarity of the crystals.

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Chestnut Ridge Rockhounding Trip: A First-Time Experience Worth Every Step by Kathryn King

From the moment I attended my first club meeting, I knew I was all in. I started preparing immediately—gathering gear piece by piece after work and spending every free moment reading about rockhounding and how to do it right. Looking back, I probably overprepared and carried far more than I needed, but the process itself taught me a lot.

The morning of the trip came with one early lesson: never underestimate Saturday traffic. Getting there was more stressful than expected, but once I arrived and the trip officially began, everything shifted. The group was welcoming, friendly, and immediately put me at ease.

Starting the day with an incredible group—welcoming, knowledgeable, and generous with their time and experience.

I hiked in carrying a framed camping backpack loaded with about 25 pounds of tools, food, and water for both me and my dog, Marya. This was our first rockhounding trip—and it did not take long for both of us to catch the bug.

Marya's first rockhounding trip—she handled the terrain like a pro and fully enjoyed the adventure.

We had been warned about the climb, and those warnings were well-earned. The trail was steep, and the thick leaf litter made footing tricky, sometimes rising past my ankles. But once you got to the right areas and moved the leaves aside, the exposed pockets revealed what was underneath—crystals that sparkled in the light.

We pushed past the halfway point and continued all the way to the top. At one point along a ridgeline, Dave pointed me in the right direction and told me to go ahead and we would regroup further up. As I moved ahead and got closer to the top of the ridge, everything around me began to

catch the light—small flashes and shimmer scattered across the surface. It was beautiful—almost surreal. I could have stayed there for hours.

While I would love to explore the area more, I'm not quite ready to go alone—between copperheads, hunters, and the general unknowns. That made the group experience even more valuable. The willingness of everyone to share knowledge, techniques, and encouragement made a lasting impression. Learning alongside experienced members was just as rewarding as the finds themselves.

Early on, I found myself picking up everything that caught my eye. Then Dave introduced me to the concept of a "leverite"—"leave it right there"—and that quickly changed my approach. I realized I had been collecting quantity over quality and began to be much more selective.

Later, I spent time watching Tom work a rock face. He showed me what a pocket looks like, how to recognize it in the geology, and how to properly work it using the right tools. I also spent time talking with Dave at the top while he was digging, and I made a point to stop and talk with others throughout the day to learn from their experience. That exchange of knowledge became a big part of the trip for me.

I stepped back, looked at the landscape differently, and within a few minutes, I found my first pocket.

My first pocket find—the moment everything clicked. I was so excited I ran to share it with the group.

Pulling crystals from it was one of the most exhilarating experiences I've had. I returned to the spot and continued working it, uncovering more as I went.

As the day went on, I noticed others digging deeper and uncovering larger pieces. Most of what I had found were smaller crystals, and it made me realize I want to come back and spend time working the ground more thoroughly. I could easily spend an entire weekend exploring and digging along that ridge.

Chestnut Ridge Field Trip 28Mar26
John Weigand

After last year's field trip to Chestnut Ridge, I resolved to do it again, since it was so rewarding. However, I also resolved to prepare myself by working out to strengthen my legs for that arduous mile climb up basically a 40% grade. Well, I tried, but it was more exhausting than my training allowed. Still, the rewards for making the journey were worth it.

The sunny day started brisk, but the climb overcame that by generating heat. At the halfway point, it was an assessment to

determine to stop and look there or continue on. Despite reservations I had to do it, so up I went. Once there, I found my spot, and sure enough, there were lots of good quartz crystals to be found, just as Dave Lines predicted there would be. Very gratifying. As I was digging into the loose dirt, I began seeing small broken points, promising more to find. Sure enough, as I followed the line of points, larger specimens emerged. I was rewarded with larger crystals clinging to base rocks. Here are my finds after washing with water. I included an objective piece to show what I hope to achieve using an acid bath.

Unlike last year, when I hauled 50 pounds of finds back, this time I was more prudent with less weight for the trip back (and going back 2 hours early). BTW, going back on that steep grade still proved more challenging. What also made the trip worthwhile was the friendly company from Dave, Rich, Tom, Kathryn, and Joe. Their support is greatly appreciated.

Limestone vs quartz in the field

A close out discussion of last month's outstanding brief by Diane.

LIMESTONE

Limestone, the common or massive form of calcite (calcium carbonate), is usually grey or tan. It's often layered, fine-grained, and relatively soft (easily scratches with a nail or knife). Forming thick sedimentary layers in warm seas, limestone is exposed as land is lifted up; it is even found at the top of Mt. Everest.

Valleys underlain by limestone produce excellent pasture and grass. Quarries in limestone produce lime and cement.

In the eastern US, exposed limestone layers appear blocky, often with broken chunks at the base. In the western US, especially dry areas, limestone forms tall cliffs, again with broken chunks downslope.

At 3 on the Mohs scale, calcite is fairly soft. It scratches talc, gypsum, and fingernails and is scratched by copper, steel, and glass.

Limestone is easily eroded by weak acids, so caves and sinkholes are common.

Other terms related to limestone include chalk, shells, fossils, reef, coral, coquina, travertine, caliche, cave "onyx", and calcareous.

Crystalline mineral calcite is recognized by its typical rhombohedral habit. It also forms pointy “dogtooth” prisms and, more rarely, hexagonal prisms. It can be shiny or somewhat dull, but its relative softness is a good indicator.

QUARTZ

Quartz is silicon dioxide, also known as silica. As a main component of granite, the rock of earth’s continents, quartz is very common. It is the last of the silicate minerals to form as magma cools, and it appears in granite as clear or pale grey lumps. In metamorphic rocks, it usually forms white or pale layers in darker rocks. Quartz takes on many colors when impurities are present.

Quartz is the hardest common mineral. It is 7 on the Mohs scale and scratches everything but hardened steel and a few minerals (topaz, corundum, and diamond).

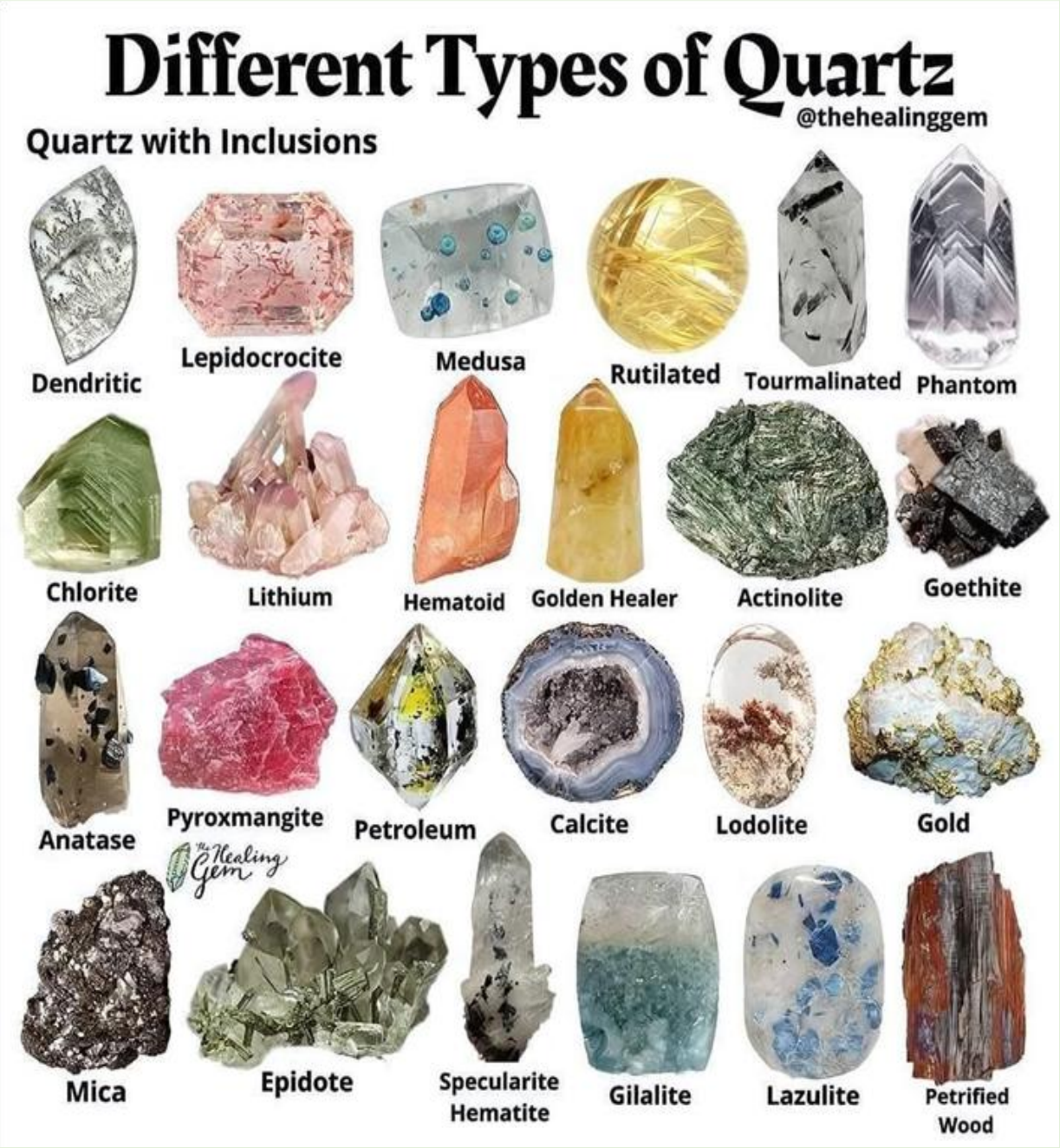
Because it is hard and common, many useful and decorative stones are forms of quartz: chert, flint, chalcedony, tiger’s eye, opal, aventurine, jasper, agate, onyx, amethyst

Quartz is chemically inert, but it breaks down into smaller particles (sand). Sandstone, the sedimentary rock, can be “glued” by silica, calcite, or iron. Quartzite, the metamorphic grade, can have a sugary appearance; it is usually recognized by its hardness and resistance to weathering.

Quartz precipitates out of water at about 600 degrees centigrade, forming roughly hexagonal prisms when it has room. Many elements and minerals can either color the quartz or be included in the crystals.

A distinctive of quartz is its conchoidal fracture: it leaves round, shell-shaped depressions when pieces are broken off.

Some plates found by Rich Simcsak on Chestnut Ridge


Different Types of Quartz
@thehealinggem
Quartz with Inclusions
Dendritic
Lepidocrocite
Medusa
Rutilated
Tourmalinated
Phantom
Chlorite
Lithium
Hematoid
Golden Healer
Actinolite
Goethite
Anatase
Pyroxmangite
Petroleum
Calcite
Lodolite
Gold
The Healing Gem
Mica
Epidote
Specularite
Hematite
Gilalite
Lazulite
Petrified Wood

DIFFERENT TYPES OF QUARTZ WITH INCLUSIONS

By Rich Simcsak

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

This month's Word Search stays with the Quartz Theme of this ROCK TALK edition. Quartz has many types of Inclusions. Enjoy this month's search!!

SPECULARITE
GOLD
GEOTHITE
GOLDEN HEALER
PETRIFIED WOOD
PYROXMANGITE
PETROLEUM
LEPIDOCROCITE
RUTILATED
PHANTOM
DENDRITIC
MICA
TOURMALINATE
ACTINOLITE
HEMATOID
LODOLITE
LAZULITE
ANATASE
CHLORITE
LITHIUM
MEDUSA
GILALITE
CALCITE
EPIDOTE

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
Also on FACEBOOK: Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club

SMRMC OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
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Diane Etherton

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Secretary
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Rock Talk Editor
Rich Simcsak

FACEBOOK Coordinator
Kurt Knower

ITEMS WANTED/FOR SALE

Nothing at this time.....

We all realize we have a little too much of a good thing and must share those items with others - but at a cost.

If any member wants to sell material to other club members, they can request to post it here for other club members to evaluate if they really need it for their collection / needs..

Contact the ROCK TALK Editor for advertising space!!