

Mineralogical Society of the District of Columbia



MINERAL MINUTES

The Mineral Minutes is the award winning bulletin of The Mineralogical Society of the District of Columbia, Inc.

The purpose of this Society is to promote interest in mineralogy, geology, and related earth sciences and to encourage mineral collecting. An annual scholarship is awarded to a deserving student in the related field.

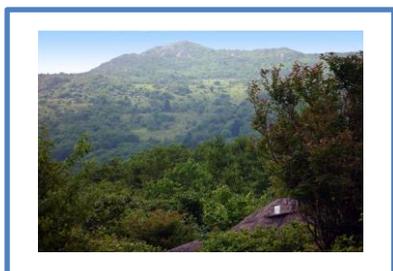
The Mineralogical Society of the District of Columbia is one of the founding Societies of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies.

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March 2014

**Please note that there will be no
March 5th meeting.**



Instead of our regular meeting, we will meet at **7pm on March 20th at George Washington University with**

Dr. Richard Tollo. Dr. Tollo is planning a "Night of Geology," hosted by his students. One student will give a talk on her research regarding volcanic rocks at Mount Rogers, and *Foshage Award* recipient, Molly Ray, will present a poster on her research on Precambrian basement rocks at Mount Rogers. Another student will have microscopes and rock samples for members to see various textures and minerals occurring in the major pyroclastic units at

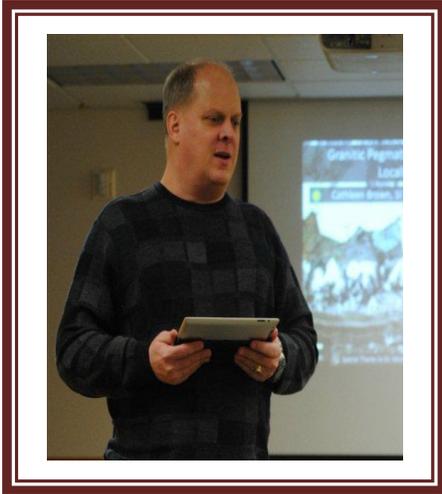
Yellowstone. (Photo Credit: <http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=%22Mount+Rogers%22&id=AA16911C081CD6D88746B5F4CF4E6033ACC5CEFB&FORM=IQFRBA#view=detail&id=AA16911C081CD6D88746B5F4CF4E6033ACC5CEFB&selectedIndex=0>)

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THE PREZ SAYS...

By Stephen Johnson



Club President, Steve Johnson, is on travel and will have many interesting things to share with us upon his return.

Visit the Smithsonian Institution's Dinosaur Hall!

Plan your visit before April 28, 2014, the date that Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History Dinosaur/Fossil Hall will be closing for a five-year, \$48 million makeover.

When it reopens, it have a new 31,000-square-foot hall, featuring the Wankel T. rex. This is one of the most complete Tyrannosaurus rex skeletons ever discovered.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS – **HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR CLUB DUES?**

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION. CONTACT REBECCA SIEGAL!

2014 DUES

Please renew your membership today!
\$20 for single member-ships. \$25 for family memberships.



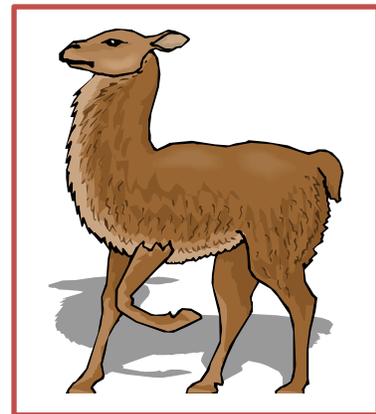
ROCKS ARE WHERE YOU FIND THEM

By Tom Tucker



I was about to bring the large sledge down once more to the unyielding face of dark grey, Cambrian age, Elbrook formation. Surely the massive ledge of thick bedded limestone would yield this time. Whoosh! Whack! But, once more, with the resonate tones of hard steel meeting tough rock, the head of the sledge bounces from the slab, leaving no evidence of the effort exerted to break and remove at least a portion of the bedrock. I'd been working on this small outcrop of merciless tough stone for several hours, and had already accumulated seven large buckets of broken rock fragments.

There had to be something interesting in this rock. The limestone had numerous fractures filled with secondary snow white calcite, making a stark contrast between matrix and the younger fracture filling. Occasionally, there was a thin open space in the fractures and it was here that I'd found tiny dolomite, calcite and pyrite crystals. As I prepare to smack the outcropping ledge once again I'm distracted by some movement about 30 feet behind me, and I turn to discover a wandering llama. His aristocratic bearing seems to be inquiring, "What the heck are you beating on that rock for?" I can't say that on any previous rock exploits, I'd ever been accosted by an inquisitive llama. This handsome fellow was very attentive, scrutinizing every movement I made, but not coming any closer. He stood there, watching, wondering. "What are you doing in MY field?" But, he seemed content to leave me be, just watching from a comfortable distance.



I went back to pounding on the limestone, and after several more blows, another segment of the grey limestone bed cracked, and soon a 40 pound chunk fell into the small trench I had created by my excavating. It was too large for a bucket, so I lifted it out of the hole and set it aside, out of the way. After more battering with large and small sledges, chisels, pry-bars, etc., there was enough loose rock for another bucket load - more waste rock to move out of the way. Every time I found an open fracture, I'd look it over for interesting crystals, but for the most part this was not going to be a fruitful day of digging. Just more calcite and dolomite, with a rare pyrite crystal that was already oxidized to rusty "limonite". I was disappointed that there hadn't been any barite or fluorite - two potentially interesting species that are known from the region, but I hadn't found any in this new locality.

As dusk approached it was time to muck out the trench, clean up the variety of tools I'd been using, say good-bye to the still present llama, and head inside to prepare dinner. That was

the one nice aspect of this rock activity - I was already home, and would be cleaned up, and fixing dinner in a matter of minutes. This wasn't a "field trip" in the usual sense. I was in my side yard, digging a trench for the drain from the new gutters and downspout. There is essentially no soil cover, so most of the excavation is from solid, fresh, dense, steeply dipping limestone. In order to maintain a reasonable slope for the drain, in places I would need to excavate about 18 inches of solid, unyielding, rock. It's a lot less like "labor", and more like "recreation", if you can look forward to the potential of some mineral "rewards". Now, if any of you would like to go "mineral collecting", I have this great new locality.

As for the llama, he was just beyond the short backyard fence, guarding the neighbors 400 sheep in the surrounding meadows. He was really very handsome, inquisitive, and in my experience, harmless. The eight buckets of waste rock was advantageously incorporated in the driveway. The three mineral species known from the trench make this one of the more diverse documented localities in the county.

Minerals Like Edges

By Andy Thompson

Growing up in the late 1950s, I had the pleasure of getting to know one of my high school faculty members who over the years I came to admire for his genuine care for students, as well as his kindness and mental brilliance. He was not a mineral collector and yet he appeared in all other matters to be a very nice and interesting person. While teaching high school, Brother Patrick Ellis earned a Ph.D. in English Literature and then became a college professor. Later he was president of several universities, including The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. Although essentially a scholar, he took a strong interest in beautifying the landscape of the campus with well-defined beds of colorful flowers and shrubbery. One day, when I complimented him on this he said: "Things like edges." Pat's throw-away line initially struck me as amusing. But perhaps because of his widely acknowledged genius, I found myself occasionally reconsidering its possible implications.

Most recently, his line came back to me in reference to the discovery of the ongoing explosion, supernova SN2014J, which astronomers observed taking place in mid-January of this year. Of course, it actually took place 11.4 million years ago, but its light has taken that long to reach Earth. Scientists and the press, along with reporting the rarity of being able, with good binoculars, to look in the direction of Ursa Major and see the super bright light of a dying star, also explained that when the temperatures of the interior of a star reached extraordinary heights, certain heavier mineral elements formed which today constitute integral parts of our human bodies. Simply put, the media announced that people really are made of star dust.

What, then, are the "edges" of which this article speaks when it says that minerals, as things, supposedly like edges?

In the normal life of a star, over tens of millions of years, its interior temperatures foster nuclear fusions which gradually promote the formation of the more simple elements such as helium and lithium, having 2 and 3 protons, respectively. Later, with higher temperatures, stars eventually produce the heavier elements such as silicon and phosphorous, with 14 and 15 protons, up toward iron, cobalt and nickel with 26, 27 and 28 protons respectively. The heavier elements form by adding protons and neutrons to their nucleus, almost like ascending a staircase, which the periodic chart of chemistry illustrates.

Finally, when the star's interior energies are depleted, the star collapses, goes supernova and violently explodes. This releases the high energies we associate with nuclear reactions, and so the temperatures are much higher than normal stellar temperatures. As a result, within the first few seconds after the star's inward collapse and then outward explosion, the formation of the much heavier elements from iron (26) to uranium (92) takes place. The explosion of the star spews free neutrons and protons outward which are immediately captured by surrounding elements, increasing the size of their nuclei and giving birth of the trans-iron heavier elements such as uranium.

The "edges" in the formation of the heavier elements are not similar to the static edges of a three dimensional crystal, but rather are more like a fourth dimension type of "edge", analogously speaking, of temperature and its associated correlates of density and pressure. The edges here refer to turning points or boundaries in the nuclear process of the formation of elements and minerals.

For example, when hydrogen "cooks" within the interior of a normal young or middle aged star, and the temperatures gradually rise due to gravitational pressures, the protons and neutrons of each of two paired hydrogen atoms eventually fuse and become a helium atom. That nuclear fusion process in turn increases the star's interior temperature and eventually results in the synthesis of yet heavier nuclei and the formation of more complex elements such as helium, then lithium, etc., on up through the periodic chart which includes the above mentioned elements, terminating with iron and nickel. At that point, the fusion process hits another "edge" because to get beyond highly stable iron, it takes an additional burst of new energy and higher temperatures to form the even heavier elements beyond iron, such as uranium. Nickel is practically speaking the next heavier element beyond iron, but nickel is unstable and breaks down to become iron which is very stable.

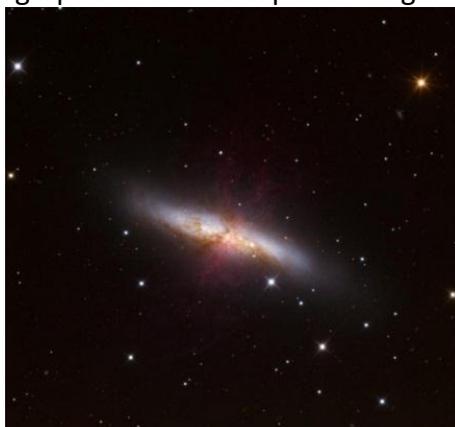
One simple way to picture this idea, that elements and minerals "like edges", is to picture a fortification geode. Its exterior appearance is round and earth-like, hence its name "geode." But its interior has concentric circles or fort-like, symmetric lines which are clear examples of where the temperature and pressure form "edges" which show exactly where the formation of one mineral such as white quartz stops and then, when the temperature and pressure changes within the geode, generates purple amethyst or other types of minerals.

Readers who reject the anthropomorphic language implied by the title, minerals *like* edges, may be happier

with the statement that elements and minerals have natural boundaries or that the formation of elements and minerals is subject to and determined by chemical and nuclear processes found within nature. I appreciate the greater precision of these latter expressions. But I like my friend Pat's witty expression in part because it is so consistent with collectors who describe mineral specimens in anthropomorphic terms, *e.g.*, each mineral specimen has the secret of its own formation, or that crystals beckon collectors to find them whether buried in yet undiscovered vugs or waiting to be found at a gem show.

In addition, in a small way, this article is also a tip of the hat to the many educational contributions Pat Ellis made before recently departing this awe inspiring earth in 2013.

For a picture of the supernova SN2014J, see pic below taken from: <http://www.universe-today.com/108462/astrophotographers-rush-to-capture-images-of-new-supernova-2014j/>



The new supernova in M82 captured by the 32-inch Schulman Telescope (RCOS) at the Mount Lemmon Sky Center in Arizona on January 23, 2014. Credit and copyright: Adam Block/Mount Lemmon SkyCenter/University of Arizona. For a picture of a fortification agate, see pic below taken from: <http://agatelady.com/images/agate-basics/Figure-6-big.jpg>



For an explanation of the SupernovaExplosionVisibleJan2014 see: http://www.cnn.com/2014/01/24/opinion/urry-exploding-supernova/index.html?hpt=hp_t4

For an explanation of this fusion process, nucleosynthesis, see: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Supernova_nucleosynthesis



Fracking on the Chesapeake Bay

By Patricia Flavin, VP MSDC

A friend sent me a link to a website last week that has shaken me, and may impact the little coastal town of Cove Point. The Cove Point Lighthouse and community sit quietly along the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay in Calvert County, Maryland. This area may be threatened by the process of fracking, which is hydraulic drilling that extracts natural gas from shale rock layers deep within the earth. These areas have been unreachable with conventional technologies. Three dimensional imaging helps determine the precise locations for drilling. Fracking injects highly pressurized fluids into the shale area. This creates new channels within the rock from which natural gas is extracted at higher than traditional rates.¹ <http://truth-out.org/news/item/21182-fracking-opponents-appeal-to-annapolis-to-prevent-export-of-shale-gas-at-cove-point#.UuUTA0Wg3s8>.email. This is bad news.

That part of the Chesapeake Bay is apparently full of shale gas “gold”, if tapped by fracking. Dominion Resources, the

company that is pursuing the future of this offshore drilling process, is billing it as “Clean Natural Gas” as though it is smart, clean and efficient. But this fuel extraction method of offshore horizontal hydraulic fracturing or “fracking” is still being developed by trial and error. The goal is to extract this commodity at four times the amount used by the State of Maryland on a daily basis and export it to Asia and India. Does this sound “foreign” to you? ² http://www.chesapeakeclimate.org/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&id=3726:stop-fracked-gas-exports-at-cove-point&Itemid=18. If so please read the Links that I am providing, including the U-Tube video.

This is your opportunity to get involved:

- WHEN: Thursday, February 20th, noon-1:30pm
- WHERE: Meet at War Memorial Plaza, corner of N Gay St & E Fayette St, Baltimore, MD 21202 (Google map)
- WHY: We’ve turned what Dominion thought was a done deal into one of the biggest environmental fights our state has ever seen. As a key hearing unfolds in

March 2014

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Baltimore -- right under Governor O'Malley's watch -- it's time to show just how big, strong and far-reaching our grassroots movement to stop Cove Point has become.

- Sign up: Join us February 20th to Stop Cove Point!
³http://org.salsalabs.com/o/423/p/salsa/web/common/public/signup?signup_page_KEY=7727#sthash.lgtVgqlp.dpuf



The process of fracking is fraught with significantly toxic water and air quality pollution. Noise pollution that emanates from the huge \$3.8 billion dollar facility (that will be offshore and on land) is anticipated to be so significant Dominion is proposing to build a 60 foot tall wall (6-story) ¾ of a mile long “sound abatement” barrier. That structure alone would become the highest landmark in that area that is known for its natural unspoiled beauty. The devastation to acreage and wildlife caused by increase in maritime shipping activity, extensive pipelines and vehicular traffic to

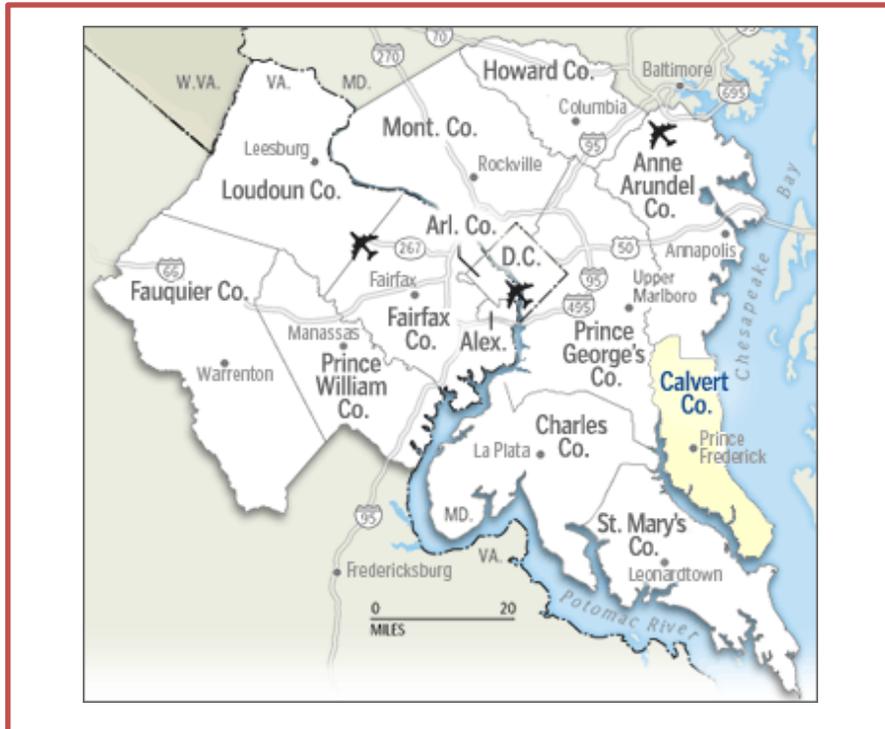
Calvert County (and the Chesapeake Bay watershed) could impact its economy, natural resources and may harm other nearby areas.

Noisy, polluting compressor stations may be required from Fairfax, Virginia to Frederick, Maryland and several places in between to keep gas moving through the pipelines.

Residents of the small, rural town of Myersville, Maryland are already fighting a 16,000-horsepower compressor station that Dominion wants to construct, which would be located just a mile from the Myersville elementary school.

Calvert County is located in Southern Maryland. There is a long a scenic coastal peninsula that terminates at the sleepy seasonal resort town of Solomons Island. The historic Patuxent River forms the county's western boundary. Route 4, Pennsylvania Avenue, is the main road traveling through this area, which is dotted with abundant farmland that reminds you that this was once prime tobacco country. It is located about an hour's drive from Washington, DC and 40 minutes from Annapolis, Maryland. The area is primarily a fishing, crabbing, oyster & agricultural community with various recreational, boating and Land Trust areas.

The famous Calvert Cliff Formation lines the Western Shoreline for dozens of miles in Calvert County. The significance of these fragile cliffs is the 8 to 22 million year old Miocene Epic fossils where shark teeth, shells, coral, animal bones, whale skeleton and archeological artifacts are imbedded in the soft marine clay. Blasting offshore for fracking cannot be beneficial for these treasured cliffs that also serve as coveted shoreline real estate. Cliffs fall all the time



in this region just because of their fragile nature. Climbing on them or digging into them is prohibited because of they are unstable and dangerous. Blasting underwater may be another detrimental blow to this area's ecology.⁴

<http://www.bayactionplan.com/2011/04/fracking-in-maryland-proceed-with-caution/>

The **future** of fracking just became the very real scary **present**. Nothing in the process sounds good for the Western Shore

Bibliography:

1. Meador, Anne. *Fracking Opponents Appeal to Annapolis to Prevent Export of Shale Gas at Cove Point*, DC Media Group, January 13, 2014
2. Trout, Kelly and Tulkin, Josh. *Stop Fracked Gas Exports at Cove Point*, Chesapeake Climate Action Network, Jan. 8, 2014
3. Chesapeake Climate Network signup page.

Sen. Frosh, Brian. *Fracking in Maryland: Proceed with Caution*, April 18, 2012 underwater could be just another detrimental blow to this area's ecology

<http://www.bayactionplan.com/2011/04/fracking-in-maryland-proceed-with-caution/>

The **future** of Fracking just became the very real scary **present**, and none of the process sounds good for the Western Shore. Please read these articles and become pro-active by spreading the news. Help Save our Bay and Calvert County!

Bibliography:

Fracking Opponents Appeal to Annapolis to Prevent Export of Shale Gas at Cove Point, By Anne Meador, DC Media Group, Monday, 13 January 2014

Stop Fracked Gas Exports at Cove Point by Kelly Trout & Josh Tulkin, Chesapeake Climate Action Network, Jan. 8, 2014

Fracking in Maryland: Proceed with Caution, by Sen. Brian Frosh, April 18, 2012

I SUBSCRIBE TO S.C.R.I. B.E.

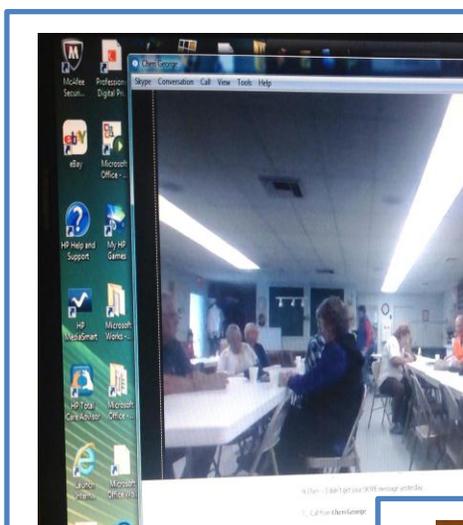
By Sheryl E. Sims

Something historic took place on January 25, 2014, and I just have to share! As some of you may know, I am a member of the Special Congress of Responsible, Involved Bulletin Editors. Saturday was S.C.R.I.B.E.'s 31st Annual Meeting and Editors Symposium. I attended via SKYPE! As a result, I have only one question to ask—"Isn't technology grand?"

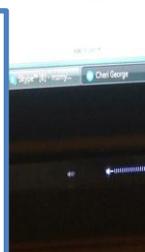
Over the past couple of months, I've been talking to Cheri George, S.C.R.I.B.E.'s president. She told me that she wasn't sure just how to do it, but that she would look into it and that's just what she did! After exchanging a few phone calls and email messages, I found myself staring into the eyes of S.C.R.I.B.E. club members.

As a relatively new member, I value the tips and articles shared in our quarterly newsletter. It was also great meeting S.C.R.I.B.E.'s officers, authors and participating in the business meeting.

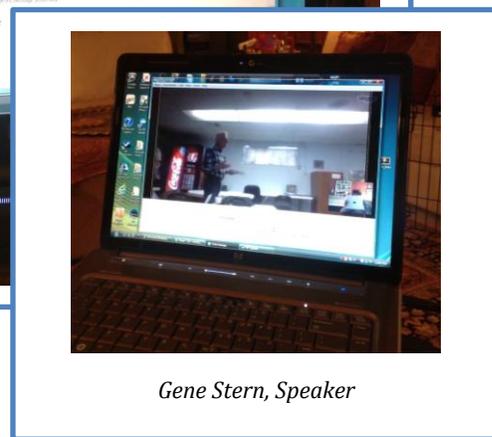
It's my hope to spread the word about S.C.R.I.B.E. to other mineral club editors so that we can increase our membership. Until I'm able to "physically" attend a S.C.R.I.B.E. meeting, I look forward to attending my next SKYPE meeting from the comfort of my living room.



Sims)



Sheryl



Gene Stern, Speaker

Minerals in the News: (Dave Nanny) www.cbsnews.com/news/rare-prized-blue-diamond-found-in-mine-in-South-Africa. A 29.6 carat blue diamond was found by Petra Diamonds in a south African mine. It said to be one of the rarest in the world and is valued at tens of millions of dollars.

Did You Know?: Ann Cameron Siegal's article entitled, "Smithsonian lab learns about animals through their bones," was published in *The Washington Post* on January 24. See: http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/kidspost/smithsonian-lab-learns-about-animals-through-their-bones/2014/01/23/407559f0-797e-11e3-b1c5-739e63e9c9a7_print.html. Ann also has a beautiful photo book entitled, "An Abundance of Beavers," which is being sold at Huntley Meadows Park, with the Park receiving partial proceeds from book sales. Congratulations, Ann!

Secretary's Report



By Rick Rieber (*Special thanks to Rebecca Siegal for taking notes.*)

Meeting Date February 5, 2014

Place: Cathy Kerby Rom. CE-340. The Smithsonian Museum of Natural History

Attendees: 23

8 pm call to order

Agenda Club President Steve Johnson recognized past presidents

Minutes Approved: January minutes approved

Visitors: Emma Hackler, Melissa, and Alexia Martinez

Treasurer's report: Rebecca Siegal accounted for the club funds.

Old Business: membership cards – several choices of designs
Name tags – hard plastic - \$5 each, figure out process, design

Thank you to Cynthia Payne for donating minerals for use as door prizes and in club auctions.

New Business: Saturday thin section open house, this Saturday 8th, and next Saturday 15th. On 22nd annual trip to JMU – museums, lab, unknown ID. Meet at 9 am at JMU. See newsletter.
Door prizes given to kids in attendance.

Geology in the News: Yellowstone – rumbling underneath super volcano. Volcano eruption in Indonesia. Cynthia sent a bunch of articles relating to minerals in the news. Moving rock on Mars – rock magically appears – rover kicking it possibly

Club Member Concerns & Announcements-

Pat Flavin talked to local quarries regarding donating rocks for raffles and speakers. Plans to do more of the same. Steve Johnson is retiring from military and plans to travel to Australia. Tom Tucker shared the sad news of Betty Thompson's sister passing. Our condolences are with Betty and her family.

Announcements: Please check out our Facebook page.

Motion to Adjourn to the Program:

Program:

Start at 8:18 pm.

Sue Marcus – USGS, Northern Virginia former club president. Presentation on her recent trip to Australia.

Meeting adjourned 9:30 pm.

Refreshments: Graciously provided by Susan Fisher.

WHERE DID THE BELOW “VIRGINIA MINERALS” SIGN ORIGINATE?

(See page 21 for the answer.)



Mineral Collectors On The Cutting Edge Of Popular Culture

You heard it here first, folks. Across the world, people are literally singing about a mysterious question: What Does The Fox Say? According to Wikipedia, between September of 2013 and mid-January of 2014, the YouTube video of this popular dance and song had over 330 million hits. All other animals have their distinct sound. But the fox? We want mineral collectors to continue to be cognoscenti and so, in case you have not already figured it out, here's the answer to this international mystery: What Does The Fox Say? The fox says: Who Let The Dogs Out?

For the Fox: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Fox_%28What_Does_the_Fox_Say%3F%29

For Who Let The Dogs Out: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=He82NBjJqf8>

ARE YOU CURIOUS ABOUT Q?RIUS? Visit the Museum of Natural History!



What is this thing...

A septarian nodule is a type of rock concretion, a sedimentary rock that forms when minerals act as cement that hold together grains of sand, clay, or silt.

Septarian refers to the cracks that are filled in with micro-crystalline minerals, such as calcite, which probably circulated through the rocks in a water solution.

But scientists are still uncertain of how exactly septaria form...

You can find more concretions in the "Rock Formations" drawers in the



Treasurer's Note:

Treasurer, Rebecca Siegal



(Photo: Ann Cameron Siegal)

2014 Dues Due in January
\$20 for single memberships. \$25 for family memberships. Why not invite your friends and family to join MSDC?

Please send all treasurer-related emails to:
dcmineralclub@gmail.com

MORE REFRESHMENTS, PLEASE! If you are able to bring refreshments to our monthly meetings, please do so. Thank you to Susan Fisher for her delicious refreshments!

WELCOME! WELCOME! WELCOME! Guests are always welcome to attend MSDC meetings. Please continue to invite your friends!

LINKED-IN:

- www.nvcc.edu/home/mkrimmer - Geospatial PowerPoint presentation with embedded videos and live URLs by . Michael J. Krimmer, PhD, Assistant Professor, Program Head, Geospatial Studies, Northern Virginia Community College
- 2014 has been designated the International Year of Crystallography (<http://www.iycr2014.org>). It commemorates the 1914 Nobel Prize in Physics to Max von Laue for his discovery of X-ray crystallography. (Erich Grundle)
- Small asteroid slams into Mars, impact captured by orbiter
<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/02/05/small-asteroid-slams-into-mars-impact-captured-by-orbiter/>

A Good Read: -*Crack in the Edge Of The World* (Suggested by S. Winchester)



(Microsoft Clipart)

Speaker Flash Back

January 2014: Tim Rose, Smithsonian, Museum Specialist-Manager, Analytical Laboratories, Department of Mineral Sciences, will start our New Year off with a presentation on: The Mysterious Stone Masks of Teotihuacan, geologist in the Division of Mineralogy, for The Smithsonian National

February 2014: Sue Marcus, Australia—Minerals and Museums.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 2014

1-2: Newark, DE - 51st Annual Earth Science Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Delaware Mineralogical Society. Delaware Technical & Community College, 400 Stanton-Christiana Rd; Newark, DE. (Exit 4B off I-95).

1-2: New York, NY - Spring New York City Gem, Fossil, Jewelry & Mineral Show sponsored by the New York Mineralogical Club. Holiday Inn Midtown Manhattan, 440 W 57th St; New York, NY.

8-9: Clifton, NJ - 25th Annual Clifton/North Jersey Gem & Mineral Show, Sponsored by the North Jersey Mineralogical Society. 10am - 5pm at The Pope John Center, 775 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ

15-16: Gaithersburg, MD - Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Montgomery County, Maryland's 50th Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show. Montgomery County Fairgrounds, 16 Chestnut St. Gaithersburg, MD. Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-5pm. Admission \$6 ages 12 and older (children 11 and under, and scouts in uniform get in for free). World-wide treasures from over 20 dealers * More than 45 exhibits * Door prizes * Demonstrations * Free workshop * Free specimens for the kids * Free kids' Mini Mine * Food for sale * Fluorescent minerals * Raffle * Plenty of free parking. See <http://www.glmcmc.com/show.shtml> for directions, coupon, and more information, or contact George Durland at GDurland1@verizon.net.

22-23: Sayre, PA - 45th Annual Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club Show will be held on March 22 (9-5) and March 23 (10-4) . Held in the Athens Twp. Vol. Fire Hall, Sayre, PA Contact 570-928-9238 uvbob@epix.net

22-23: Chambersburg, PA - 36th Annual Gem- Mineral & Jewelry Show, Jewelry-Gemstones-Minerals-Fossils-Displays, Demonstrations-Door Prizes. Hamilton Heights Elementary School, 1589 Johnson Road, Chambersburg, PA. Directions: Exit 16 off Interstate 81 at Route 30 West. Travel through Chambersburg 2.2 miles to traffic signal at Sollenberger Rd. Turn right on Sollenberger Rd and go 1.0 mile to Johnson Rd on right. The school is .3 mile on the left. March 22 & 23, 2014, Saturday 10 am- 5 pm, Sunday 10am- 4 pm, Admission \$5.00- Children under 12 free with adult. Contact: SHOW CHAIR for more information - Mike Mowen, 717-264-9024, mlmo@innernet.net

22-23: Hamburg, NY - 46th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil Show sponsored by the Buffalo Geological Society. The Fairgrounds Market & Grange Buildings, Hamburg, NY.

28-29: Hickory, NC - 44th Annual Uniflour Gem, Mineral, Bead, Fossil & Jewelry Show sponsored by the Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club. Hickory Metro Convention Center, I-40, Exit 125, Hickory, NC.

29-30: Plymouth Meeting, PA - EFMLS Convention -Philadelphia Mineral Treasures & Fossil Fair and EFMLS Annual Convention sponsored by the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society & Delaware Valley Paleontological Society. LuLu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA. EFMLS Annual Meeting: Friday, March 28. 29-30: Philadelphia Mineral Treasures & Fossil Fair and EFMLS Annual Convention sponsored by the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society & Delaware Valley Paleontological Society. LuLu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA. EFMLS Annual Meeting: Friday, March 28.

28-30: Raleigh, NC - 38th Annual Show of the Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club, Inc. Show Dates & Times - April 4-6, 2014. Friday 3-8 PM. Saturday 10 AM -6 PM, Sunday 10 AM -5 PM. Free admission, free parking. Kerr Scott building, Fairgrounds, Raleigh, NC. Show Chairperson - Cyndy Hummel, 10609 Chelsea

Dr. Raleigh, NC 27603 919-779-6220.
mchummel@mindspring.com

April 2014

4-5: Alexandria, VA – The 41st Annual Atlantic Micromounters' Conference hosted by The Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area. Springhill Stes., Marriott, Alexandria. More info: Kathy Hrecka, kshrechka@msn.com

5-6: Johnson City, NY - The 2014 New York Southern Tier Geology Club show will be held on April 5 (9-5) and April 6 (10-4). The event will be held at the Johnson City Senior Citizens Center, 30 Brocton St., Johnson City, NY

24-27: Rochester, NY - 41st Rochester Mineralogical Symposium April 24-27, 2014 Early Registration Deadline March 20, 2014 Contact: contactrms@hotmail.com, (315) 682-0387. Radisson Hotel Rochester Airport 175 Jefferson Road, Rochester, NY 14623 Hotel ph# (585) 475-1910. **Click for Registration Form. Click for Schedule of Speakers.**

26-27: West Mifflin (Pittsburgh), PA - Monongahela Rockhounds Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show. Saturday, April 26, 2014 10:00 to 6:00. Sunday, April 27, 2014 10:00 to 4:00. West Mifflin Volunteer Fire Co. #4 Skyview Hall, 660 Noble Drive, West Mifflin (Pittsburgh), PA 15122. Free Admission and parking. For more information and directions go to www.monongahelarockhounds.org

May 2014

17-18: Leesport, PA - 46th Annual "World of Gems & Minerals" sponsored by the Berks Mineralogical Society. Leesport Farmers Market Banquet Hall, Rt 61; Leesport, PA

June 2014

7: Macungie, PA - Spring Mineralfest – Mineral, Fossil and Gem Show sponsored by the Pennsylvania Earth Sciences Association. Macungie Memorial Park, Macungie, PA

7-8: Monroe, NY - Annual Mineral, Gem, Jewelry, Fossil Show, Sell & Swap sponsored by the Orange Co. Mineral Society. Museum Village, 1010 Route 17M, Monroe, NY.

26-27: Mattituck, NY - The Long Island Mineral & Geology Society, Sponsoring our

July 2014

34th Annual Mineral, Gem, Jewelry & Fossil Show, Saturday, July 26 & Sunday, July 27, 2014, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, Mattituck High School, 15125 Main Road (Rte 25A), Mattituck, NY 11952. Door Prize: Smoky Quartz Crystal Cluster. Over 30 vendors displaying minerals, gemstones, bead jewelry, fine jewelry, fossils, meteorites and more from around the world. Also: gemstone wire wrapping, jewelry repair, geode cracking, geology displays, and a geology scavenger hunt. Air Conditioned. Refreshments available. Admission: \$6.00 Under 12 free. Discounted admission with website flyer and postcards. Website at www.limineralandgeology.com. LIMAGS sponsors educational programs and scholarships.

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MEET, GREET, & EAT!



Join MSDC club members for dinner at Pier 7 at 6:00 p.m. before each meeting.

2014 MSDC OFFICERS & DIRECTORS



(left to right: Steve Johnson, Rick Reiber, Patricia Flavin, Rebecca Siegal, Dave Hennessey, Andy Thompson, Dave Nanney, & Sheryl Sims)

(photos provided by B. Thompson, A. Cameron Siegal, & S. Sims)

Officers & Board Members Contact Information

President: Steve Johnson - StevikJ@gmail.com; Vice President: Patricia Flavin - pattiflavin@gmail.com

Secretary: Rick Reiber - Mathfun34@yahoo.com; Treasurer: Rebecca Siegal - dcminalclub@gmail.com

Directors: Dave Hennessey - dhennessy@spa.com; Dave Nanney - DNanney@cox.net;

Andy Thompson - thompson01@starpower.net; Editor: Sheryl Sims - sesims4@cox.net

FEDERATION NEWS

AFMS Officers for 2013-14

President, Richard Jaeger, rjgrsci@aol.com
President-Elect, Marion Roberts, [<mvroberts@bigvalley.net>](mailto:mvroberts@bigvalley.net)
1st Vice President, Matt Charsky, [<matt2430@comcast.net>](mailto:matt2430@comcast.net)
2nd Vice President, Ann James, amariann113@yahoo.com
3rd Vice President, J.C. Moore, [<jcmoore3rd@gmail.com>](mailto:jcmoore3rd@gmail.com)
4th Vice President, Doug True, [<dtruefossils12@yahoo.com>](mailto:dtruefossils12@yahoo.com)
5th Vice President, Ann Monroe, [<annmonroe@windstream.net>](mailto:annmonroe@windstream.net)
Secretary, Anne Cook, [<secretary@amfed.org>](mailto:secretary@amfed.org)
Treasurer, Pat LaRue, [<bplarue@earthlink.net>](mailto:bplarue@earthlink.net)



(Photo Courtesy of AFMS Newsletter – November, 2013, p.4.)

NEW EFMLS Officers for 2013 – 2014

President – Hazel Remaley, northridge5@verizon.net
1st VP - Merrill Dickinson, medsearchnorth@comcast.net
2nd VP – Michael Kessler, Quartz7228@aol.com
Secretary, Gerry Cox, gerryannec@verizon.net
Treasurer, Jean Charsky, jean2430@comcast.net
Asst. Treasurer, Michael Patterson, Michael.Patterson@pgparks.com
Editor, Carolyn Weinberger, PO Box 302, cscrystals2@gmail.com



2014 EFMLS Wildacres Registration

PLEASE, ONLY one person per form per session

CHECK ONE: April 7 – 13: _____ September 1 – 7: _____

Please fill out a separate registration form for each person attending and return to PAMM BRYANT, Registrar at 2645 Davis Mill Rd, Goochland, VA 23063. No registration will be accepted prior to January 1, 2014. (To make it easier for the registrar and others, please do not change or revise this form. You may photocopy it as needed.) Please write legibly!

Name (as you wish it to appear on your name badge): _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone number with area code: _____ e-mail: _____

Club/Society Affiliation: _____

Fee for the spring session is \$390.00 per person. Deposit is \$185 per person, payable with registration.

Fee for the fall session is \$390.00 per person. Deposit is \$185 per person, payable with registration.

Make checks payable to "EFMLS". Balance of fee is due 30 days prior to start of session.

No postdated checks will be accepted.

Cancellation policy: If unable to attend, fees paid will be refunded if notification is given prior to one month before the session begins. No refund will be made after that date.

Circle appropriate responses:

Have you been to Wildacres before? Yes _____ No _____ Is your Club paying your tuition? Yes _____ No _____

Name of roommate: _____ (If none, one will be assigned).

Are you: Male _____ Female _____ (No single rooms are available). Are you a smoker? Yes _____ No _____

Do you have any physical handicaps and / or special dietary needs? Yes _____ No _____ If YES, please explain on reverse side.

Do you have material for exhibiting that you would be willing to display at Wildacres? Yes _____ No _____

Do you have a skill to demonstrate or a program to share (up to 40 minutes)? Yes _____ No _____

Class Pre-registration.

See EFMLS Newsletter or Web site for class offerings. <www.amfed.org/efmls/wildacres.htm>

You will either be able to take one 4-day class or two 2-day classes. All participants must take classes.

Which of the classes being offered would you like to take? Please indicate at least 3 choices in order of preference for each semester. You will be preregistered for classes based on your choices, but no class placement is guaranteed. Should your preferred class be unavailable for any reason you will be preregistered for another of your choices. If no alternate class preference is indicated we will pre-register you in a class of our choosing, based on availability.

1st Semester or 4 day class choices Second Semester

- 1 _____ 1 _____
2 _____ 2 _____
3 _____ 3 _____
4 _____ 4 _____

(No registrations accepted prior to January 1, 2014)

Mail to: Pamm Bryant, Wildacres Registrar; 2645 Davis Mill Rd; Goochland, VA 23063

If you have any questions, please contact either

Pamm Bryant, Registrar at <pjbryant6@juno.com> or 804-457-4698 or

Fran Sick, Director at <ednfran@epix.net> or 570-928-8313.

For Office Use Only

ID # _____

Date Rec'd" _____

Amt. Paid: _____

Ck #: _____

Amt. Paid: _____

Ck #: _____

Paid in _____

Courtesy of: January 2014 EFMLS NEWS

HearYe, HearYe! 2014 EFMLS Convention News

by Deb Craig, President, Philadelphia Mineralogical Society

2014 marks the first EFMLS Convention to be co-hosted by the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society! The Philadelphia Mineralogical Society was founded in 1892 and like many Philadelphia Institutions is steeped in history and brotherly love.

The PMS annual show and sale will be held as it has been for 10+ years at The Lu Lu Shriners Masonic Temple at 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462. The EFMLS Convention and associated meetings will be held at the Doubletree Hotel –Plymouth Meeting. The Saturday evening banquet and Sunday editor’s breakfast will be held at the Doubletree –Plymouth Meeting, Pa. as well. This host property is conveniently located in Plymouth Meeting, PA only 3 miles away from the show venue. Rooms have been set aside at the DoubleTree Suites by Hilton Philadelphia West, 640 Fountain Rd, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462 for any interested parties! Please call the Doubletree at (610) 834-8300 for additional booking information.

PMS has also lined up a few special field trips--one for Friday afternoon to the Philadelphia Wagoner Free Institute of Science and another on Sunday to share geology facts and host mineral hunting in the fascinating Philadelphia Wissahickon – so come to the Philadelphia area and have some active fun!

A Cracker Barrel event will be held on Friday as well at the Doubletree –Plymouth Meeting. This is a great time for people to network and learn what is working for other clubs. The EFMLS annual meeting is tentatively scheduled for a 7:30 pm start on Friday evening.

The show will have lots of showcases available for your use, so, plan on entering a display or two. If you enter as a competitive exhibit, the judges will be anxious to do what they do best – evaluate your display!

There will be seminars, hands-on educational activities and shopping for children and adults with a full hall of vendors at the show venue, Lu-Lu Shriners Masonic Temple at 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA.

In addition to the show, there is certainly much history and plenty of activity to be enjoyed by all in the Philadelphia Metropolitan area. There are many museums, nature preserves and of course shopping at the famous King of Prussia Mall—just a short ride from our show activities on the PA. Turnpike! Please plan on spending several days and exploring Philadelphia -- the most historic city in the Nation!

There are a number of PMS members who would be happy and proud to give you some history and travel advice to possibly include personal, local excursions to the Wyeth Museum, Winterthur, Longwood Gardens, etc. Please save the weekend dates of March 28 to March 30th to experience and enjoy these special events!

To begin planning this active, historic opportunity.... Look for the show packets, in early January and plan on reserving a room (or two). And of course, share the information with your club members.

MINERAL MINUTES

Please see area map below

To Lu Lu Shriners Temple
5140 Butler Pike
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

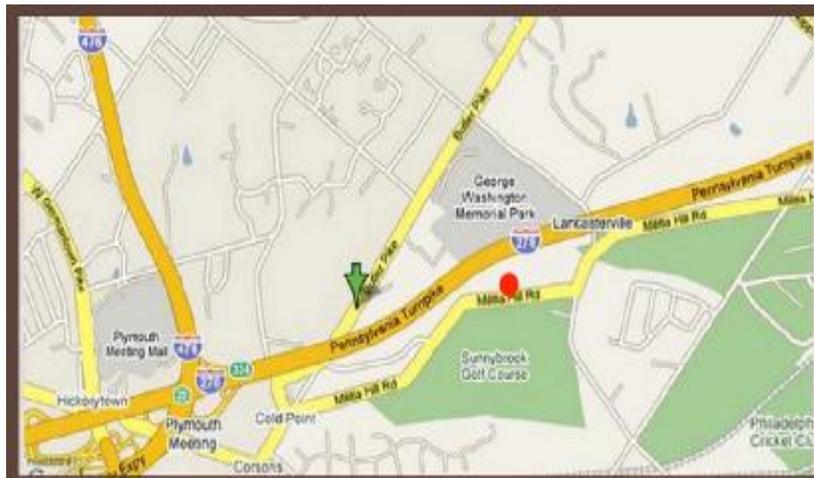
From the PA Turnpike (I-276):

Take Norristown exit 333. After tollbooth follow signs for Plymouth Rd. Turn right at bottom of ramp onto Plymouth Rd. Continue to the traffic light. Turn left at the light onto Butler Pike and proceed 3/10th mile, bearing left where the road forks to a stop sign. Proceed through the stop sign, bearing right, for 5/10th mile, passing beneath the Turnpike, to Lu Lu Shriners Masonic Temple which will be on the right.

From the Blue Route (I-476):

Take exit 20. Follow signs for Plymouth Rd, bearing left. At the bottom of the ramp turn right onto Plymouth Rd. Continue to the traffic light. Turn left at the light onto Butler Pike and proceed 3/10th mile, bearing left where the road forks to a stop sign. Proceed through the stop sign, bearing right, for 5/10th mile, passing beneath the Turnpike, to Lu Lu Shriners Temple which will be on the right.

The Philadelphia Mineralogical Society looks forward to hosting you at the 2014 EFMLS Convention and Show. Mark your calendar now for March 28-30, 2014.



Answer to quiz:

The Virginia Mineral sign was originally hanging on a fence alongside of a roadside "Rock Shop" on Lee Highway, US 211, between Luray and New Market. It overlooked a fine vista of the Page Valley, or at that point, the eastern half of the Shenandoah Valley. The rock shop is long gone, and the building which housed it is once again for sale, as it has been several times in recent years. I acquired the sign about eight or nine years ago. **Tom Tucker**

MINERAL MINUTES

Pre-Meeting Dinner: Join us for dinner at the Pier 7 Restaurant at 6:00 PM for dinner before the club meeting. 650 Water St SW, (at S L St), Washington, DC 20024, (202) 554-2500, www.pier7restaurant.com/Menu. Please contact Patricia Flavin, pattiflavin@gmail.com to make a reservation if you wish to attend.

**Visitors are always welcome at our monthly meetings and dinners!
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL
THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (MSDC)**

Family ~ \$25.00 per year. One address.

Individual ~ \$20.00 per year.

New * Renewal Dues are for Year _____ *

For new members who join in the last months of the year, membership will extend through the following year with no additional dues.

ANNUAL DUES – PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES PROMPTLY.

Pay at next meeting or mail to:

Mineralogical Society of DC, P.O. Box 9957

Alexandria, VA 22304

Name(s) (First and Last)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone(s): Home/Work/Mobile _____

Email(s) _____

OK TO INCLUDE YOU ON CLUB MEMBERSHIP LIST?

Yes – Include name, address, phone, email.

If you want any information omitted from the membership list, please note:

Omit my: Email, Home phone, Work phone, Mobile phone, Address, Name

SPECIAL CLUB-RELATED INTERESTS?

MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

(2014 Officers & Board Members)

President: Steve Johnson, stevikj@gmail.com

Vice President & Program Chair: Patricia Flavin, pattiflavin@gmail.com

Secretary: Rick Reiber, Mathfun34@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Rebecca Siegal, dcmineralclub@gmail.com, (mail: c/o MSDC, P.O. Box 9957, Alexandria, VA 22304)

Directors: Dave Nanney, Dave Hennessey, and Andy Thompson, thompson01@starpower.net

Editor: Sheryl Sims, sesims4@cox.net

Co-Web Masters: Betty Thompson & Casper Voogt, http://mineralogicalsocietyofdc.org/

Meeting Dates, Time, and Location: The first Wednesday of each month. (No meeting in July and August.) The National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, 10th Street and Constitution Ave, Washington D.C. We will gather at the Constitution Avenue entrance at 7:45 PM to meet our guard who will escort us to the Cathy Kirby Room. Street parking: **THERE ARE NOW PARKING FEES, PAYABLE AT THE KIOSKS, AND ENFORCEMENT UNTIL 10 PM.**

MINERAL MINUTES

The Mineral Minutes is an EFMLS & AFMS Award Winning Bulletin

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Newsletter of the Mineralogical Society of the District of Columbia



Mineralogical Society of DC
P.O. Box 9957
Alexandria, VA 22304
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