

The Mineral Minutes

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Since the first Wednesday of January of 2020 falls on New Year Day, our January meeting will take place on the **second Wednesday, January 8, 2020**. Program details below.

January 8, 2020 Program: “Virginia Mineral Project” by Thomas Hale

by Yury Kalish, MSDC Programs VP

Thomas Hale, founder of the Virginia Mineral Project, will discuss his ongoing work to develop a new mineral publication on Virginia Minerals after 30 years. He will be discussing how the MSDC and the broader mineral community can be involved in the project and what new opportunities will be coming to Virginia over the course of 2020. Thomas will showcase some of his mineral specimens and trips from across Virginia over the last few years.

Thomas went to school at Virginia Tech University and worked closely with the Geoscience Department and the Museum developing displays on Virginia Mineral History. For several years, Thomas ran The Geology Man Facebook page which connected geology outreach to thousands of people across the world and state. He also helped develop the Virginia Rockhounding group on Facebook that has grown to nearly 600 members in the last four years with a very active community base that posts daily.

Thomas’s new project is a collaborative effort to preserve and outreach Virginia’s incredible mineral history and geology. The project, known as the Virginia Mineral Project (VMP), seeks to collect and preserve stories and then share these stories, by utilizing advancements in technology to bring to life Virginia minerals and their history in ways that have never been done before, utilizing high quality images, online interactive educational facts, and stories about the discovery of classical specimens.

Please join us in taking Thomas to dinner on January 8th at 6:00 pm at the Elephant and Castle at 1201 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. If you cannot make it to dinner, please go directly to the lobby of the Natural History museum (Constitution Avenue entrance) at 7:30 pm. We will head upstairs to the Cathy Kerby Room at 7:45 pm for Thomas’s presentation.

Sharing Time

by Dave Hennessey, MSDC President

For sharing time this month, since our presentation is focused on Virginia minerals, let's bring Virginia minerals to the sharing time. I plan to bring several nice Virginia mineral specimens that I picked up at the Richmond Swap in early November. As always, if you want to bring something other than Virginia minerals, that is perfectly okay. Bring anything that you find interesting and that you think the rest of the membership will enjoy hearing about. If it pleases and fascinates you, the rest of the membership will enjoy seeing and hearing about it as well.



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Prez Says...

**by Dave Hennessey
MSDC President**

Happy Holidays!

I am writing this shortly after our Holiday Party. I think those who made it to the party had a great time. For those who didn't make it – where were you??? You missed a great party. Good friends, good food, good drink, good cheer and a mineral gift exchange for those who wanted to participate.

(cont. on p. 2)

MSDC's December 2019 Business Meeting Report

by Andy Thompson, MSDC Secretary

President Dave Hennessey alerted MSDC members that because the club's December meeting was going to be our annual holiday party, the December business meeting was being deferred to our next monthly meeting scheduled for January 8th. By way of email, however, club treasurer John Weidner provided an important update on the club's checking account activity and also advised that now is the time for members to submit their annual dues of \$20 for an individual or for \$25 for a family membership.

Dues can be given to John at a monthly meeting by way of a check made out to "Mineralogical Society of DC" or can be mailed to John at 7099 Game Lord Dr., Springfield, VA 22153-1312.

Similarly, the election of MSDC's officers for 2020, which normally would have taken place at the December meeting, will happen at our January 8th club meeting. Traditionally, the Board of Directors (BOD) drafts a slate of members who have said they are willing to serve as the club's officers and the BOD proposes that list for members' consideration and for a vote at the January meeting. Additionally, any club member's name can be proposed to serve on the Board, so long as the person named has agreed to serve, the position is specified, and a reason is given for why the person's name is proposed. The reason can be very short, including, for example, that they want to serve and are willing to do so. Such additional names should be sent to the MSDC secretary, Thompson01@starpower.net, prior to the January meeting so all members can receive advance notice of the offer to serve.

At the BOD meeting in August, all current officers expressed a willingness to have their names advanced for election for the coming year. Of the three Directors, one rotates off yearly and so Ken is scheduled to become a free agent as of January 2020. In addition, Amanda gave the BOD notice that she is retiring as an MSDC Director a year early. So in effect, two Director positions need to be filled. Leslie Nanney said she would be willing to stand for election as a Director. Also, Ken said he was willing to fill in behind Amanda. Also at the August BOD meeting, there was a brief discussion about the importance of MSDC welcoming and seeking new people as club members and as BOD officers although no action was taken at the August meeting.

The BOD's list of proposed officers for 2020 include the following: President, David Hennessey; Vice-President for Programs, Yury Kalish; Treasurer, John Weidner; Secretary, Andy Thompson; Directors: Dan Teich, Ken Reynolds, and Leslie Nanney.

Tim Rose Honored for 40 years of Service

by Kathy Hrechka

Tim Rose of the Mineral Sciences department was honored for his forty years of service on December 10, 2019 at the Smithsonian by Dr. Kirk Johnson, Sant Director of the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History.

The photo of the happy occasion is on the right (photo credit: Kathy Hrechka). From left to right: Tim Rose; Kirk Johnson.

(Prez Says cont.)

Since we were partying and not conducting business in December, we have a little catching up to do in January. The first order of business at our January meeting will be to elect officers for the 2020 calendar year. The current leadership team (David Hennessey, President; Yury Kalish, Vice President; Andy Thompson, Secretary; John Weidner, Treasurer) is willing to continue in 2020 but other nominations including self nominations are welcomed. We also need to fill two Board of Directors (BOD) positions. BOD members serve for three years, and our current 3-member BOD is Kenny Reynolds, Dan Teich, and Amanda Parker. Amanda is unable to continue because of conflicting commitments and Ken's current term is coming to an end. Usually we are only electing one new BOD member each year to replace the member whose term is coming to an end, but this year we will be electing two to serve alongside Dan whose term continues. Kenny has indicated he is willing to continue for another three years and Leslie Nanney has indicated she is willing to serve as well. As with the Officer positions other nominations including self nominations are welcome.

And speaking of our January meeting, I want to remind everyone again that we are not meeting on the first Wednesday of the month since that is New Year's Day. For January only, we are meeting on the second Wednesday, January 8th. I look forward to seeing everyone then.



January 2020 – The Mineral Minutes

MSDC Club Information

Meetings are the First Wednesday of the Month (Jan-Jun and Sep-Dec). We meet in the Constitution Avenue lobby of the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History at 7:30 pm.

Website <http://mineralogicalsocietyofdc.org/>

Facebook www.facebook.com/Mineralogical-SocietyOfTheDistrictOfColumbia

2019 Officers and Directors

President - Dave Hennessey | davidhennessey@comcast.net

Vice President - Yury Kalish | yury.kalish@gmail.com

Secretary - Andy Thompson | thompson01@starpower.net

Treasurer - John Weidner

mail: 7099 Game Lord Dr, Springfield, VA 22153-1312

Directors

Amanda Parker | parkeramandalynn@gmail.com

Ken Reynolds | KennyReynolds62@gmail.com

Dan Teich | danteichdvm@yahoo.com

Webmasters

Betty Thompson | bdthompson01@yahoo.com

Casper Voogt | casper.voogt@gmail.com



THE MINERAL MINUTES

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NEWSLETTER OF THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mineralogical Society of DC
Time Sensitive Dated Material
First-Class Mail

Useful Mineral Links

Announcements from Local Clubs

	American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS)	www.amfed.org
	Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (EFMLS)	www.amfed.org/efmls
	MINDAT	www.mindat.org
	Mineralogical Society of America (MSA)	www.minoscam.org
	Friends of Mineralogy	www.friendsofmineralogy.org/
	WebMineral	webmineral.com
	The Geological Society of America (GSA)	www.geosociety.org/
	Jeff Scovil Mineral Photography (not advertising - just great photos)	scovilphotography.com/
	United States Geological Survey (USGS)	www.usgs.gov
	The Geological Society of Washington (GSW)	http://www.gswweb.org/

The Gem Lapidary and Mineral Society of Montgomery County:

We're having another AUCTION!

Vast quantity of specimens from the estate of a longtime collection – many museum quality minerals, large and small cabinet sized from all over the world, including some closed locations. Some specimens are in their original wrapping.

Over 100 lots. Open to all – Please join us.

Saturday January 18, 2020. 9:00am auction preview 10:00am – 2:00pm live auction

Note: payment to be made in cash or credit card
Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Dr., Rockville MD 20850

This is more material from the collection seen at our April 2018 Auction that was so popular.

Additional information and pictures will be posted on GLMSMC.com and on our FaceBook page as we get closer to the auction date. We expect to auction hundreds of specimens, many in bulk lots.





AFMS Code of Ethics



- I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.
- I will keep informed on all laws, regulations of rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- I will to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind – fences, signs, and buildings.
- I will leave all gates as found.
- I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- I will discard no burning material – matches, cigarettes, etc.
- I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock. [Editor's Note/Observation: I would also include wildlife as well as livestock.]
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.
- I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- I will cooperate with field trip leaders and the se in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public "image" of rockhounds everywhere.

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
c/o John Weidner
7099 Game Lord Drive
Springfield, VA 22153-1312

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? _____

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 7:30 PM to meet our guard who will escort us to the Cathy Kerby Room.