



**THE  
NORTHERN  
VIRGINIA**

**MINERAL CLUB  
INC**

*Crystals are the flowers of the Mineral Kingdom*



# The Mineral Newsletter

**Meeting: October 22 Time: 7:30-10 p.m.**

**Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Rd. Arlington, VA 22204**

## Program: Show and Tell

By Barry Remer, Vice President

The program for our October meeting will be show and tell. It has been a long-standing tradition for us to spend one of our meetings after the summer break to share stories of our adventures over the summer. Stories about digging. Stories about travelling. Stories about what was left behind for the benefit of others. Since last month's meeting was an auction, the meeting this month makes a good choice to spend a bit of time sharing with others. Please bring specimens and stories to share with the club during our meeting.

Guests are always welcome!

**Volume 53 No. 10**

**October 2012**

Also find information on our Club website:

**<http://www.novamineralclub.org/>**

Dear Fellow Rockhound:

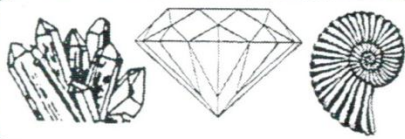
November means our annual club show, and we are using Volunteer Spot to recruit volunteers. Even if you cannot help at the show, please acknowledge the survey and check "No".

Please go to this web link - to sign up for the show! <http://vols.pt/cwAG2E>

Thanks for your participation! We really need help from everyone. Remember, every member makes a difference.

JimKostka, Show Co-Chair/Coordinator

Jim Kostka cell 202-207-5437



## 21st Annual GEM, MINERAL AND FOSSIL SHOW

Presented by the Northern Virginia Club, Inc.

[www.novamineralclub.org](http://www.novamineralclub.org)

*Sponsored by the Dept. of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Earth Sciences at GMU*

Date: **November 17 & 18, 2012**

Place: **Student Union II Building (The Hub)  
George Mason University Campus  
Braddock Rd. & Route 123, Fairfax, VA**

Hours: **Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 10am-4pm**

Admission: **Adults: \$5, Seniors & Teens (13-17): \$3  
Children 12 & under, Scouts in uniform,  
and GMU Students w/valid ID are FREE.**

**\$1 OFF**

**1 Adult admission  
with this card**

**Demonstrations, Exhibits, and Door Prizes. Mini-mines for  
children to dig in and get free fossils and minerals.**

**Over 20 Dealers with Fossils, Minerals, Crystals and Gems for sale.**

*Use Parking lot A, enter Lot A from Nottaway River Lane.*

*Look for our Courtesy Shuttle to Mineral Show*

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jim Kostka - and we will be happy to provide you with a prompt answer.

Dealer Coordinator  
Contact:  
Tom Taaffe  
[rockcllctr@aol.com](mailto:rockcllctr@aol.com)

Details on page 2

## Northern Virginia Mineral Club

# November 17 & 18, 2012: Fairfax, Virginia 21st Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show

Sponsored by the Northern Virginia Mineral Club - [www.novamineralclub.org](http://www.novamineralclub.org)  
& and the GMU Department of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Earth Sciences

### Show site:

**George Mason University,**  
Fairfax Virginia  
Student Union Bldg II (*The Hub*)  
GMU Campus is located at the  
intersection of Rte 123 & Braddock  
Road, Fairfax, VA

### Hours:

Saturday 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM, Sunday  
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

### Features:

20 plus Dealers selling Minerals,  
Fossils, Crystals, Gems, Jewelry,  
Carvings, Meteorites & more!  
Also, Demonstrations, Exhibits, Door  
Prizes & Kid's Activities including  
Kid's Mini-mines & Fossil Dig.  
Silent Auction on Sunday afternoon.

### Admission:

Adults \$5, Seniors \$3,  
Teens (13-17) \$3.  
FREE - Children (12 & under), Scouts in  
uniform, GMU Students w/valid ID.

### Parking:

On campus use GMU's parking Lot A  
Enter Lot A from Nottaway River  
Lane off Braddock Road  
Courtesy shuttle provided from  
Parking Lot A to the Mineral show.

### GMU Campus map:

<http://eagle.gmu.edu/map/fairfax.php>

For an overview of the GMU show, see  
the video here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xq-EsM1w74A>

### 2012 Dealers

Alan's Quality Minerals – Alan Benson –  
Ewing, NJ  
Arrowwood Minerals - Richard Ertel –  
Spotsylvania, VA  
John Culberson - Minerals - Texas  
Jon Ertman – Gems & Minerals – Rockville,  
MD  
Robert Farrar – Minerals & Fossils - Bowie, MD  
Geosol Imports – Rob Evans – Dillsburg, PA  
Grier Minerals & Fossils – Dick Grier –  
Dundalk, MD  
Hartstein Fossils – Gene Hartstein – Newark,  
DE  
Dave Hennessey – Minerals - Woodbridge, VA  
Frank Hissong – Minerals - Harrisonburg, VA  
KBT Minerals & Fossils - Tom Taaffe -  
Vienna, VA  
Dave Liscomb – Crystals & Jewelry - Faber, VA  
William Mattison – Fluorescents – Gaithersburg,  
MD  
The Mineral House - Tom & Pam Kottyan -  
Bucyrus, Ohio  
Parker Minerals – Fred Parker – Catonsville,  
MD  
The Prospector Shop - Marianne Cannon –  
Acme, PA  
Jehan Sher – Pakistan/Afghan Minerals –  
Lorton, VA  
Michael Shoemaker – Minerals – Manassas, VA  
The Silver Phoenix – Raven Belter – Vienna,  
VA  
Yinan Wang – Fossils, Meteorites – Alexandria,  
VA  
Wayne Sukow – Minerals – Falls Church, VA  
TJ's Rocks – Minerals – Glenmoore, PA  
Williams Minerals - Keith Williams – Rio, WV

# Northern Virginia Mineral Club

## President's Collected Thoughts:

By Sue Marcus, President

Lots to share this month! I hope you will come to our October meeting with specimens to show and tales to tell about their acquisition. I had a wonderful time at the Denver Mineral Show (or shows, since there are many venues around the city). I'll share my experiences, and some earth science information sources, at our October meeting.



Our annual Club show is November 17 and 18 at George Mason University. Our show is your show, so sign up to help before, after, or during. We have tasks for all skills and interests. Jim Kostka, Show co-chair, developed an easy-to-use online sign-up system using Volunteer Spot <http://www.volunteerspot.com/login/entry/854090764092>

Sign in and sign up! If you don't want to sign in, or don't have Internet access, contact Jim at [jkostka@juno.com](mailto:jkostka@juno.com) or 202-207-5437. You can even help without being there. We can use kids rocks, if you are downsizing and want to donate lower quality material, and we always need better quality specimens for our Silent Auction.

Sharing our interests in minerals, fossils, jewelry, and all aspects of earth science has drawn us together as a club. Our upcoming show-and-share meeting and the annual Show provide opportunities to learn more from others and help them learn from us. See you October 22nd!



Welcome to [MineralsEducationCoalition.org](http://MineralsEducationCoalition.org)  
the home of the MEC!

Our new website is coming soon; in the meantime, please see the Mineral Information Institute's website: <http://www.mii.org/commonminerals.html> for more information on mining and minerals.

**Sue Marcus picked up some information from the Minerals Education Coalition (MEC) booth at the Denver Mineral Show, and will share it at the October 22 meeting.**

The core purpose of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration (SME) is to be THE resource and advocate for the mining community. To serve this purpose, SME has restructured our outreach and education efforts. The Minerals Information Institute (Mii) and the Government, Education and Mining (GEM) programs have been combined to create a new SME program: the Minerals Education Coalition (MEC). MEC's mission is to develop and deliver accurate and timely K-12 education materials and activities and conduct public awareness outreach about mining and minerals.

We offer mineral educational resources at [www.MineralsEducationCoalition.org](http://www.MineralsEducationCoalition.org). The content of this site will be updated and new content will be added. Check back soon for a brand new look for the site, as we're redesigning it to better serve your needs. Check out the 'Minerals' pages for specific information on rocks and minerals. Find activities and handouts for your classroom. Stop by the 'store' to buy materials for your classroom. Some materials can be sent at a reduced cost if you buy in bulk or buy several materials together. Contact me directly to discuss your needs. And if you're local, stop by the office to pick up materials at a reduced cost with no shipping fees.



# Northern Virginia Mineral Club

## Sue Marcus visits the Denver Mineral Show



"The Denver Mineral Show 2012 featured the specimen of Quartz crystals with Ajoite inclusions from the Messina (aka Mesina) Mine, South Africa. This specimen weighs more than 200 pounds and is about 4ft. by 3 ft.! Imagine lugging it into the show!"

Photograph by Sherm Marsh, Denver



## Previous Meeting Minutes: 9/24/12

By Kathy Hrechka, Secretary

President Sue Marcus opened the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Due to the auction, she announced that the business meeting would be short. Sue congratulated club members for involvement with the Eastern Federation BEAC awards. Matt Charsky served on the BEAC Advisory committee. Kathy Hrechka received a certificate for a non-technical article about Fred Schaefermeyer. Sheryl Sims was recognized for her assemblage of the Club Year Book, which won Second Place in the American Federation Awards. Joe Murter was named "Rockhound of the Year".

Sue invited members to attend the Smithsonian's Family Rock Day September 29, 10 - 4 p.m. at the Museum of Natural History. She also reviewed the rules for our club auction.

Show Chairs, Tom Taaffe and Jim Kostka encouraged members to volunteer online for the upcoming NVMC Show November 16-18. Kids Table needs mineral donations.

Kathy Hrechka invited members to attend the Micro Group meeting on September 28 at the nature center because Dr. Andrew Beck would be speaking on the Dawn asteroid mission.

The business meeting ended at 8 p.m. Break for Refreshments.

Club Auction began with Ti Meredith, Rob Robinson, and Matt Charsky auctioneering prized minerals to the highest bidder.



# Northern Virginia Mineral Club



**American Federation of  
Mineralogical Societies**

(AFMS)

[www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)

## 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, 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.

☐ 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 those 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.



**Eastern Federation of  
Mineralogical and  
Lapidary Societies**

(EFMLS)

[www.amfed.org/efmls](http://www.amfed.org/efmls)

**Communication and Involvement  
Are the Keys to Our Success!**

## Each One Teach One News

by Hazel Remaley, EOTO Chair

## THIRD PLACE AWARD

**Cynthia Payne**

Mineralogical Society of  
the District of Columbia

My congratulations to all  
the winners and thank you  
for all you do for our  
hobby.



## Geology Events:


By: Matt Charsky

### October:

**27:** "Ultraviolation" Fluorescent Mineral Show sponsored by the Rock & Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County. First United Methodist Church, 840 Trenton Rd; Fairless Hills, PA.

### November:

**17-18:** 21st Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Northern Virginia Mineral Club. George Mason University, Rte 123 & Braddock Rd; Fairfax, VA.



**21st Annual  
GEM, MINERAL  
AND FOSSIL SHOW**

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Sponsored by the Dept. of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Earth Sciences at GMU

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Look for our Courtesy Shuttle to Mineral Show





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PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE:  
[HTTP://www.novamineralclub.org](http://www.novamineralclub.org)

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### 2012 Club Officers

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Refreshments: Karen Lewis

## The Northern Virginia Mineral Club

You can send your Newsletter articles to:

7201 Ludwood Ct.  
Alexandria, VA 22306

Or via email: [news.nvmc@gmail.com](mailto:news.nvmc@gmail.com)

**Visitors are Always Welcome at our Club Meetings.**

RENEW YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP!

SEND YOUR DUES TO:

Rick Reiber  
Treasurer, NVMC  
PO Box 9851  
Alexandria, VA 22304

OR  
Bring your dues to the  
meeting

**Purpose:** To promote, educate and encourage interest in geology, mineralogy, lapidary arts and related sciences. The society is a member of Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (EFMLS) <http://www.amfed.org/efmls> and American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) <http://www.amfed.org>.

**Dues:** Due by 1 January of each year; \$15.00 Individual, \$20.00 Family, and \$6.00 Junior (under 16, sponsored by an adult member).

**Meetings** are held at 7:45 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month (except May and December\*) at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 Carlin Springs Road, Arlington, VA 22204. Phone (703) 228-6535. (No meeting in July & August.)

(\*Changes announced in the newsletter.) Show schedule - Arlington county schools.