



# Chippers' Chatter

Newsletter of the Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Society  
Baltimore, Maryland <chesapeake.rockclub.us>  
Volume 53 Number 07  
July 2009

## Who We Are:

The Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Society is a Member of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary Societies and is Affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

The Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Society was established in order to allow its members to gain knowledge and skills in various phases of the Earth Science field. Through field trips, exhibitions, and cooperation with other societies, we endeavor to further not only our own knowledge, but also that of the general public.

Meetings are held on the 2nd Friday of each month except August at the Women's Club of Catonsville, St. Timothy's Lane & Frederick Rd in Catonsville, MD. Meetings begin at 7:30 P.m. and visitors are always welcome.

**Deadline for submitting articles or comments in this Newsletter is the 15th of each month.**

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President's Message: June 21, 2009

Many of us acquired new items for our collection during the June auction. Thanks to all who donated items for the Club Side. A special thanks to our auctioneers.

Our next activity will be the annual July picnic. This year our picnic begins at 6:30 pm. All members are asked to bring salads and desserts to share with fellow members. Hot dogs and burgers will be provided. Along with great food we will have the Ugly Rock contest and ROCKS bingo for entertainment.

See you at the picnic.

Gil

## NOTICES:

**Attention all!** We need information for any upcoming Gem & Mineral shows in our area.

Please notify the editor. Thanks in advance.

## Upcoming Shows & Special Events:

### 2009

**July 3-5:** 43<sup>rd</sup> International Gem & Jewelry Show, Timonium, MD Exhibition Hall & 4-H Building. **Commercial Show**

**September 7 – 13:** 2<sup>nd</sup> EFMLS Wildacres Workshop.  
Speaker in residence – Brenda Foreman

**September 26 – 27:** 45<sup>th</sup> Atlantic Coast Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show, Howard County Fairgrounds; I-70 at MD Rte 32. Sat: 10am-6pm, Sun: 10am-5pm; Sponsored by: Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore, Inc

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### Goodies 'N Such

by Liz & Wendy Stanne

As usual, our "Auction Four" brought in wonderful goodies for our refreshment table in June. Thanks to them, we had lots of variety, from veggies to brownies. Thank you also to Sydnee & Barry Berlin for bringing in some lovely cantaloupe.

As always, in July, everyone who attends our fabulous picnic, will be bringing in a dish to share. It should be a great evening!

## Personals

Chesapeake Show:

I want to thank Liz, Wendy and Phyllis for taking over for me at the info table, and anyone else that was involved when I had to go home suddenly. I heard everything went well.

It was not nice to have to leave like that, but it was comforting to know that capable people would fill in for me.

I don't have any current news on members. Due to a prior commitment we will not be at the July picnic. I want to wish everyone a wonderful summer, and safe travels.

Keep in touch.  
Lynne

++++That's all the personal news I have this month. If you have any news or know about any thing affecting any members, please let me know. <<Editor>>

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## Minutes

Submitted by Earle Pftzing

The meeting of the CGMS was called to order at 7:46 p.m. at the Catonsville Woman's Club by Club President, Gil Charleton.

The president welcomed the membership and then called for abbreviated committee reports in order to have more time for the club auction, which was tonight's program.

Treasurer's Report: Marilyn Cornish said that the club is financially sound. ((See below for a special note from Marilyn.))

Library: Tony Wilners said that there are several new books on mineralogy available in the library.

Old Business: Lynne Luger thanked all the members who contributed time and effort to the club's show at the Ruhl Armory. Bernie Emery especially thanked Jack Berger, who did all the work on the wiring and electrical connections.

New Business: Richard Hoff reminded everyone that the July meeting will be the annual parking lot picnic, starting at 6:30 p.m. on July 10<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to bring a covered dish. <<Ed. - Lasagna is always appropriate!>> The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:53 p.m. when the auction ended.

### Treasurer's Special Note:

- By Marilyn May Cornish 17 June 2009

We just renewed our lease and with it was a reminder of the rules and regulations regarding renting the hall.

Thought it might be good to include in Chipper's Chatter. Thanks, Marilyn

Editor: The following are the "rules and regulations of contract" that I believe are appropriate for our group:

- The lessee is responsible for any damage to the building or grounds, damage, loss or removal of any of its contents.
- No smoking in the club house.
- Food is not to be set up or served in the carpeted room. Do not leave food or beverages in the refrigerator or over; take it with you when you leave. The club assumes no responsibility for any problems caused by food served at the clubhouse.
- No loose balloons. <<they must be attached to your wrist.>>
- Nothing is to be adhered to any surface in this building.
- The piano is not to be removed from the stage nor is the piano to be moved over the trap door and you are not to place anything on the piano.
- The club is not responsible whatsoever for any article lost, misplaced, stolen or damaged.
- The lessee shall leave the Clubhouse clean and tidy.
- We are asking all leasers of the club to put the trash bags in the trashcans.

## Feature Articles

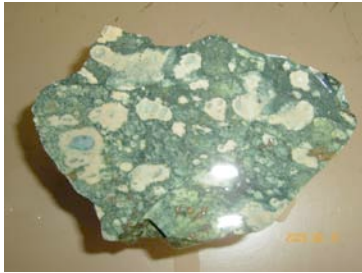
### Copper Rhyolite

Submitted by Dale J. Fisher, June 2009

*Adams County cutting Materials (other than Cupasite)*

"The best native copper localities in Pennsylvania are located in southwestern Adams County. Snively Mine is located about 1/4<sup>th</sup> of a mile northeast of Mount Hope on the east side of the mountain. Mount Hope is in the Iron Springs Quadrangle. The Bechtel Mine is located in the town of Mount Hope. The Russell mine is located 1 mile south of Mount Hope on the north side of a lake which is the headquarters of Copper Run. Two miles southwest of Maria Furnace on the north banks of the Tom's Creek is the Reed Hill Mine. The Bingham mine is located \_ mile northeast of Pine mountain on the west side of the road from Maria Furnace to Gladhill. <<Unfortunately a major connecting site, the Bingham mine dump, has been obliterated and no longer exists.>>The Virgin Mine is \_ of a mile west of Pine Mountain. Get permission at the individual mines which are all private property. "

“Most collectors will look for the iridescent native copper from this region. Besides taking a dendritic form, the copper is found as wires and in crystalline masses. Associated with the copper are secondary copper minerals such as malachite and azurite, cuprite, bornite and chalcocite. A rare rose pink epidote, piemontite, occurs on Pine Mountain. There is also quartz, sometimes crystallized, chlorite, and hematite.



Most interesting from the lapidary point of view is a cutting quality copper rhyolite. It is a tough material resembling unakite at first glance which the

basic colors are moss green and apricot-rose with areas of black and white. However, on closer examination some of the bright apricot areas are seen to be native copper. The green is probably epidote, with perhaps some malachite coloring the more intense green areas. The lighter apricot may be spar, the tiny dark areas may be smoky quartz or biotite or both. Arranged in ovals and ellipses, the structure is termed amigdaloidal, which refers to the almond shaped inclusions. “

- (1) “Appalachian Mineral and Gem Trails” June Culp Zeitner, Lapidary Journal, 1968, pg 31
- (2) “Gemstones of North America” John Sinkankas, Vol 1, 1959, pp. 547-548
- (3) Examples:



## Mineral of the Month – Millerite

by Steve Weinberger

Millerite [NiS], a nickel sulfide, forms in the trigonal system. It usually forms as very slender radiating crystals having a brassy or bronze yellow color. It was named for William Hallows Miller (1801-1880) who wrote an important book on crystallography. Its hardness is 3.5 and density is 5.3. It is opaque, has a metallic luster, and has a greenish-black streak.



Perhaps the finest Millerite specimen found in Maryland. Frostburg Fire Clay Mine; Alleghany Co. MD, Harold Levey specimen

Millerite is found in many locations world-wide. Halls’ Gap, KY has supplied fine specimens for collectors and in micro sizes are beautiful. Other locations include Canada, Norway, Russia, Australia, South Africa, Bohemia, Germany, the Vesuvius Volcano, and the Mid-Atlantic Ridge.



US 27 roadcut; Halls Gap, Lincoln Co. KY

*July is our annual picnic so we usually do not bring in examples of the mineral of the month, but so as not to deprive anyone of fine examples, I invite everyone to check out the website <[www.mindat.org](http://www.mindat.org)> to see samples of this really neat mineral. While you are there, experiment using the site to find out just what you can learn.*

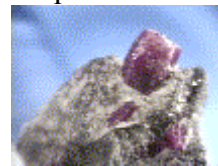
Ref.: Guastoni & Appiani. Minerals.

Bernard & Hyrsl. Minerals and their Localities.

## July Birthstones – Ruby

By M.S. Hakulin

July has only one gemstone, Ruby, designated as its birthstone. However, this has not always been so. In the “Curious Lore of Precious Stones by Frederick Kunz, prior to the beginning of the 15<sup>th</sup> century both turquoise and onyx were also listed for July the



Russians also listed sardonyx and the Arabs listed carnelian and the Hebrews, Romans, and Isidore Bishop of Seville and the Italians all used onyx as their July

birthstone.

Ruby is a variety of corundum which also encompasses sapphire as its other variety. According to the Colored Stone Association any medium or better corundum is considered a ruby.



All lighter colors are sapphires. The quality of ruby is determined by its freedom from inclusions and flaws as well as its good red color.

Extracted and paraphrased from “Birthstone of the Month”, Pansy D. Kraus G.G., F.G.A., Lapidary Journal Vol XXX, 1976

## **The Legendary History of the Engagement Ring – Part 3 and final As told to Mike Hakulin, Editor**

### **The 20<sup>th</sup> Century**

From 1880 De Beers were able to control the supply (and price) of diamonds but how were they going to control demand during a period when sales began dropping dramatically (up to 50%) in the 20s and 30s onwards through the great depression?

Just as platinum started to become popular in diamond engagement rings, diamonds were becoming less valued. Platinum was banned for all but war use during WWII and so the platinum diamond engagement rings as we know them today almost died out.

The answer to the problem was a new marketing campaign commissioned by De Beers that began in 1947. Perhaps you've heard the slogan "A Diamond is forever"? This was to mark the beginning of a change in the history of the engagement ring.

Subsequent campaigns would convince families to hold on to their diamonds as family heirlooms...and it worked! Used diamonds were not being released back into the industry which in turn created the demand that De Beers was seeking.

In 1953 the world's two most glamorous women of the time Marilyn Monroe and Jane Russell were the stars of the hit film musical *Gentlemen Prefer Blonds*.

The plot involves Monroe and Russell chasing potential husbands on a cruise to France. The movie also features a very famous song sung by the blonde bombshell Marilyn Monroe, "Diamonds Are A Girls Best Friend."

The film is now 50 years old but it's still a firm favorite of all who love Hollywood and the legend of Monroe. (Of course there are others: *High Society*, *Breakfast At Tiffany's*'s *Diamonds Are Forever* among them)

This is where the tradition of the diamond engagement ring really started, all from an advertising campaign that literally "rocked" the

world <Get it? "rocked"...okay I'll shut up!> So you see buying a diamond engagement ring isn't really a popular ancient tradition.

It's more a combination of "dreaming of being a princess", a clever marketing campaign and compelling Hollywood glamour that ultimately promotes diamonds as the only jewels with which to furnish you loved one as a sign of engagement.

### **The 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

The history of the engagement ring has moved on and demand for diamonds and platinum diamond engagement rings is still rising. The tradition is here to stay. It is estimated 78% of all engagement rings sold every year are diamond.

[www.diamondsholesalecorporation.com/TheHistoryoftheEngagementRing.html](http://www.diamondsholesalecorporation.com/TheHistoryoftheEngagementRing.html);  
[wikipedia.com/engagementring/](http://wikipedia.com/engagementring/)

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### **Bounce This Along!**

All this time you've just been putting Bounce in the dryer!

The US Postal service has sent out a message to all letter carriers to put a sheet of Bounce in their uniform pockets to keep yellow-jackets away.

Use them all the time when playing baseball and other sports and when working outside. It really works. The insects just veer around you.

1. It will chase ants away when you lay a sheet near them. It also repels mice.
2. Spread sheets around foundation areas, or in trailers, or cars that are sitting and it keeps mice from entering your vehicle.
3. It takes the odor out of books and photo albums that don't get opened too often.
4. It repels mosquitoes. Tie a sheet of Bounce through a belt loop when outdoors during mosquito season.
5. Eliminate static electricity from your television (or computer) screen.
6. Since Bounce is designed to help eliminate static cling, wipe your television screen with a used sheet of Bounce to keep dust from resettling.
7. Dissolve soap scum from shower doors. Clean with a sheet of Bounce.
8. To freshen the air in your home - Place an individual sheet of Bounce in a drawer or hang in the closet.

9. Put a sheet of Bounce in vacuum cleaner.
10. Prevent thread from tangling. Run a threaded needle through a sheet of Bounce before beginning to sew.
11. Prevent musty suitcases. Place an individual sheet of Bounce inside empty luggage before storing.
12. To freshen the air in your car - Place a sheet of Bounce under the front seat.
13. Clean baked-on foods from a cooking pan. Put a sheet in a pan, fill with water, let sit overnight, and sponge clean. The anti-static agent apparently weakens the bond between the food and the pan..
14. Eliminate odors in wastebaskets. Place a sheet of Bounce at the bottom of the wastebasket.
15. Collect cat hair. Rubbing the area with a sheet of Bounce will magnetically attract all the lose hairs.
16. Eliminate static electricity from Venetian blinds. Wipe the blinds with a sheet of Bounce to prevent dust from resettling.
17. Wipe up sawdust from drilling or sand papering. A used sheet of Bounce will collect sawdust like a tack cloth.
18. Eliminate odors in dirty laundry. Place an individual sheet of Bounce at the bottom of a laundry bag or hamper.
19. Deodorize shoes or sneakers. Place a sheet of Bounce in your shoes or sneakers overnight.
20. Golfers put a Bounce sheet in their back pocket to keep the bees away.
21. Put a Bounce sheet in your sleeping bag and tent before folding and storing them. It will keep them smelling fresh.
22. Wet a Bounce sheet, hose down your car, and wipe lovebugs off easily with the wet Bounce.

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**2009 Officers:**

**President:** Gil Charlton

<info@chesapeake.rockclub.us>

**Vice President:** John Buchleitner

**Recording Sec'y:** Earle Pftzing

**Corresponding Sec'y:** Phyllis Dyer

**Treasurer:** Marilyn Cornish

**Directors: 2009**

Steve Dyer

Gary White

**2009-10**

Carolyn Weinberger

Bernie Emery

**Committee Chairs**

Auctions - Lynne Luger & Bernie Emery

Directory - Phyllis & Steve Dyer

Field Trips - Dave Fordyce

Greeters - Al Pribula, & Earl Pftzing

HOLIDAY Party - Dawn , Rachel, Karl & Karin Johnsson

Hospitality - Liz & Wendy Stanne

Legislation - Dave Fordyce

Library - Tony Wilner

Mineral of the Month - Steve Weinberger

Personals/Announcements/ - Patricia Smith & Lynn Luger

Robinson Award - Patricia Smith, Richard Hoff, & Elizabeth Stanne

Sunshine Pgms - Richard Hoff, Keith Kaneda & Tony Wilner

Safety - Johnny Johnsson

Show - Bernie Emery & Lynne Luger

Showcase - Steve Dyer

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**Emergency Telephone Chain:**

Lynne Luger

Liz Stanne

Mary Chandler

Wendy Stanne

Phyllis Dyer

Dawn Johnsson

Some interesting websites:

<http://www.minermattersgazette.com/viewclassified.html>

<http://www.dragonsayeauctions.com/>

If you have a favorite website or even several, Please send them to me for the newsletter.

<ed>

Chippers' Chatter  
 Mike Hakulin, Editor  
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 Millersville, MD 21108



<b>Table of Contents</b>	<b>2009 Calendar of Events</b>
<b>Upcoming Meetings &amp; Shows</b> 1	<b>July</b> 10 - Picnic Meeting
<b>Goodies 'N Such</b> 1	<b>August</b> -- No meeting --
<b>Personals</b> 2	<b>September</b> 11 - Regular Meeting
<b>Minutes</b> 2	7-13 - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Session Wildacres*
<b>Feature Articles</b> 2	<b>October</b> 9 - Club Auction
<b>Mineral of the Month</b> 3	<b>November</b> 13 - Regular Meeting
<b>July Birthstone - Ruby</b> 3	<b>December</b> 11 - Holiday Party
<b>The History Continues – Part 3 &amp; final</b> 4	+++++
<b>2009 Officers &amp; Committees</b> 5	<b>2010 Calendar of Events</b>
<b>Quotable Quips</b> 6	<b>January</b> 8 – Regular Meeting
	<b>February</b> 12 – Regular Meeting
	<b>March</b> 12 – Regular Meeting
	<b>April</b>
<b><u>Quotable Quips:</u></b>	<b>On the First Greyhound Passengers:</b>
<b>On Warnings, Just a Little Vague: “Beware of People” Sign posted in Hong Kong</b>	<b>“See where the Pilgrims landed by bus” Billboard on the Massachusetts Turnpike</b>