

MNCA Website [www.dcmicrominerals.org](http://www.dcmicrominerals.org)

# The Mineral Mite



**Vol. 58 – No. 3 Washington D.C. A Journal for Micromineralogists March 2025**

## Meeting: March 24 3-5:30pm Kings Park Library, Burke

### Program: "Extraterrestrial Update!"

By Jeff Guerber, Vice president

Jeff Guerber will give an "Extraterrestrial Update": Bennu, 2024 YR4, lunar landers, and more! Let him know if there's a Solar System topic, you'd especially like him to cover. Our MNCA meeting will be on Monday, March 24 (Note: 4th Monday, not last!), 3:00-5:30pm in the Kings Park Library large meeting room. Our April meeting will be Monday April 28, 3-5:30 at KPL.



### President's Message:

By David Fryauff, PhD President



This is the month of my birth which took place on March 15th, 1952, in Saint Paul, Minnesota. My earliest clear and distinct memory was not much later; around 1955 or 1956, and I was standing in a long line of mothers and their howling children, inching forward to receive the new polio vaccine developed by Jonas Salk. Not much later, in 1958 or 1960, I started searching for rocks and fossils. Believe it or not, I still have several of those old rocks--an agate, and a fossil--that I found in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

The real point of this month's message is to thank the members of the Leidy Microscopical Society for an excellent and truly informative 49th anniversary symposium held at the Advent Lutheran Church in Richboro, Pennsylvania on March 7-8, 2025.

### Mystery Micro Mineral of the Month



Locality clue: Three Aloes Mine, Uis pegmatite, Uis, Erongo Region, Namibia FOV=3.8mm. By Aloha Peter Chin, Honolulu, Hawaii. Answer p 4.



David Fryauff and John Sanborn at Leidy MS

## President's Message continued

I was happy to see that fellow MNCA member John Sanborn had arrived before I did because I really needed his help to unload the boxes and flats of mineral specimens, I brought up for the giveaway tables. I was among good friends again and set up my microscope station next to Eric Brosius, the current Leidy president who also happens to be a member of our MNCA. The size and geographic distribution of the Leidy group seems not too different from that of our MNCA group.

Their 2023 numbers indicated 18 members from PA, 1 from NJ, 1 from DE, and another from Colorado. They had 5 honorary members including our dear friend John Ebner of Tucson, AZ. Other notable attendees included Al Pribula from Baltimore, Steve Stuart from Easton, PA, my Wagner College classmate, Ed Johnson, from Staten Island, NY, and Juan Proano, a Peruvian mine engineer, geologist, and life member of the Gem Mineral & Lapidary Society of Montgomery County, MD.

The speakers were Chris Duerr, a geologist who pursues olivine to some of the most volcanic places on earth, and Dr. Bill Daily, a biochemist who pursues living and fossil diatoms to places in Maryland and to some of the most unlikely places on earth. This was the 5th time I have attended the Leidy gathering and I have to say that the presentations given were among the best I have heard. I came away absolutely fascinated, newly educated, and truly amazed at the beauty and importance of diatoms in our world. As usual, the member contributions of mineral specimens and diatoms!!! to the Leidy Society, and to members attending were outstanding.

I was fortunate to come away with microcrystalline specimens of cinnabar, opal, stilbite, Jordisite, and Ilsemmanite (apparently collected by Bill Tomkins in 2001) from the Kiggins Mine in Clackamas Co., OR; Ilmenite and Pseudobrookite from near Robinson Summit, White Pine Co., NV; Carnotite (FL) from the Anderson Mine, Yavapai Co., AZ; and pale yellow anatase from Richmond, Quebec. Probably lots more!!!! Thanks to members of the Leidy Microscopical Society for a great symposium (and for welcoming me into their ranks as a new member).

## 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Leidy Microscopical Society Micromount Symposium Success 2025



*Wagner classmate & New friend Ed Johnson with excellent specimens. Photos by David Fryauff*



*Microscopes of antiquity*

Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area, Inc.

**Leidy continued**



*John Sanborn MNCA and Steve Stuart CMMA editor*



*Abundance at the giveaway tables thanks to many contributors*



*Juan Proano watches diatom micromanipulation by Dr. Bill Daily*



*Leidy member Crystal Hoffman & MNCA member John Sanborn*



*Juan Proano & Steve Stewart Canadian Micro-mineral Association editor*

## Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area, Inc.

### Micro Mineral of the Month

By Aloha Peter Chin, Honolulu, Hawaii

Answer: Zinconigerite 2N1S (brown hexagonal crystals) in Muscovite (white fibrous), Three Aloes Mine, Uis pegmatite, Uis, Erongo Region, Namibia  
FOV=3.8mm.

### Previous Meeting Minutes 2.24.2025

By John Sanborn, Secretary

The Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area gathered in the Kings Park Library large meeting room at 3:00 pm on Monday February 24, 2025. Thirteen members were present: President Dave Fryauff, Vice President Jeff Guerber, Treasurer Michael Pabst, Secretary John Sanborn, Editor/Historian/Webmaster Kathy Hrechka, Bob Cooke, Dave MacLean, George Loud, Dave Hennessey, Scott Duresky, Dennis Coskren, Tom McCutchan, Craig Moore.



After general discussions and mineral viewing, John Sanborn presented a photo discussion of Switzerland Minerals and Mountains, (See separate article).

President Dave Fryauff brought the business meeting to order at 5:00 PM. Dave MacLean was recognized for his prior service as President. New member Tom McCutchan was recognized and he introduced himself and his interest in minerals. Minutes of the January 27, 2025 meeting were approved as published in the Mineral Mite.

Michael Pabst presented the treasurer's report, noting our bank balance and our tax forms are up to date. Bob Cooke presented an update and led a discussion of the bylaws and constitution, (see separate article).

Thank You to all that provided excellent "give away" specimens.

The next MNCA meeting will be on Monday March 24, 2025 from 3-5:30 PM in the Kings Park Library large meeting room. Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM



L-R Dennis Coskren, President Dave Fryauff, Bob Cooke, Tom McCutchan



L-R Scott Duresky, Past President Dave MacLean, Dave Hennessey.



L-R George Loud, Craig Moore, Editor-Historian-Webmaster Kathy Hrechka, Treasurer Michael Pabst



L-R Treasurer Michael Pabst, Past President Dave MacLean, Secretary John Sanborn, President David Fryauff

## Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area, Inc.

### Previous Program Reviewed 2.24.2025

By John Sanborn, Secretary

Switzerland Minerals and Mountains” I should include Chocolate and Cheese in my title. This was a seven-day trip from DC to Switzerland plus one night on the plane going. We flew to Zurich overnight on Wednesday May 22, 2024, arriving Thursday at about eight in the morning. We took a train from the airport to Central Zurich near our hotel, then spent the day exploring the town. Our first stop was the ETH University in Zurich and the amazing mineral displays. [www.ethz.ch](http://www.ethz.ch) Next was a visit to the Grossmunster church to view the agate & glass windows. The windows were installed in 2009 by Sigmar Polke. Some agates have had their color changed or enhanced with chemicals.

Friday morning, we picked up a rental car and drove to the Lindt Home of Chocolate. From there it was around the Zurichsee, the Obersee, and the Walensee, then North up the Rhine River valley to Berneck. This is the homeland of some of my ancestors dating to ~1610. We were treated to a tour of the town museum and wine processing building by one of the town council members and a historian. These two gentlemen were very welcoming. The town consists of about 4,000 people. Many of whom grow grapes. These grapes are combined in the fall and processed together into Wine. The wine is divided by share for each participant. After we had a sample of the wine, we drove back to Zurich via Saint Gallen and Winterthur. Saturday, we took a train from Zurich to Lucerne. We had a boat ride and a cogwheel train ride to Mt Rigi. [www.rigi.ch](http://www.rigi.ch) On top is a 96-meter communications tower. Next was the Glacier Garden Museum and gift shop where I made my only mineral purchase.

Sunday, we took a train from Lucerne to Bern. We walked around the old town visiting various cathedrals and museums including the Natural History Museum & Einstein Museum.

Monday, we took a train from Bern to Lauterbrunnen via Interlaken. Our hotel in Lauterbrunnen (like virtually every place in town) had a view of Staubbach Falls. We were walking near Staubbach Falls and met a group of people from the University of Kansas. (where we went to school) They were recent graduates and chose Switzerland as their celebratory trip. We took a three stop Cable car ride from Stechelberg to the

Schilthorn Peak where part of the James Bond movie "On Her Majesty's Secret Service" was filmed.

Tuesday, we rode the Golden Pass Express train from Lauterbrunnen to Montreux. Montreux, among other things is the location and inspiration for the 1972 Deep Purple song "Smoke on the Water". Members of the band are still performing this song in 2024 and released a new video to go with the song about a month before we were there to visit. We stayed in the Grand Hotel, as mentioned in the song, and at night there were people walking below our balcony singing the song. The new video is especially appropriate as part of it shows a giant turntable needle grinding through a Swiss valley. The Chillon Castle is located on Lake Geneva and was also an interesting stop.

Wednesday, we drove to the Maison du Gruyeres castle, namesake for cheese. We had cheese fondue after the castle tour and drove to Geneva. We visited the Cathedrale de Saint-Pierre including the Chapel of the Maccabees which has impressive stained-glass windows and stone mosaics.

Thursday was our flight home. As expected, Switzerland is a beautiful country. The weather was great in late May. Several of the MNCA members have had the good fortune to visit and some for extended time periods.



Collection of purchased rocks from Switzerland. Photo by John Sanborn, Secretary MNCA

*Continued next page.*

**Switzerland Minerals continued**



*Two local guys and John Sanborn (wearing hat) are sampling red wine from Berneck, Switzerland, where his ancestors originated.*



*Staubbach Falls, Lauterbrunnen, Switzerland.  
Photo by John Sanborn, Secretary MNCA*



*Agate windows in the 16<sup>th</sup> century Grossmünster Protestant Church in Zurich, Switzerland installed by Sigmar Polke in 2009. Photos by John Sanborn*



**Switzerland Minerals continued**

**Topographical Map**



*Lindt Home of Chocolate. Photo by John Sanborn*

Photo below:

John Sanborn is admiring a colorful plastic relief map of Switzerland. It is on display at the Museum at the University of Zürich. During his presentation, he featured several maps of various regions within Switzerland to guide us through his tour.



## Chalcomenite

By Michael Pabst PhD, Treasurer

My previous article was about Pauladamsite, which is a copper selenite *and* sulfate. The principal copper selenite *without* sulfate is Chalcomenite. Chalcomenite is copper selenite  $\text{Cu}(\text{Se}^{4+}\text{O}_3)\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . It is deep blue, transparent or translucent, glassy, dense (specific gravity 3.35), and soft (hardness 2 - 2½). Chalcomenite is orthorhombic 2 2 2 – disphenoidal, a rare crystal class that can be either right-handed or left-handed. The name comes from the Greek χαλκος (copper) and μήνη or σελήνη (moon), because the element selenium is named after the moon. Type Locality: Cerro de Cacheuta, Sierra de Cacheuta, Cacheuta District, Luján de Cuyo department, Mendoza Province, Argentina.



There is an unofficial dimorph called Clinochalcomenite, which is green and monoclinic 2/m,  $\beta = 97.27^\circ$ . Stephen Wolfsried has a photo on Mindat of the two together: <https://www.mindat.org/photo-737549.html>. There are X-ray and Raman spectra on the RRUFF.info website. So, Clinochalcomenite has been studied seriously. However, Clinochalcomenite is not IMA approved, as of February 2025.

Just for clarity, here is a list of closely related selenium minerals relevant to this article and the previous article:

**Chalcomenite**  $\text{Cu}(\text{Se}^{4+}\text{O}_3)\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$   
orthorhombic 2 2 2 – disphenoidal

**Clinochalcomenite**  $\text{Cu}(\text{Se}^{4+}\text{O}_3)\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  monoclinic 2/m  
– prismatic  $\beta = 97.27^\circ$

**Ahlfeldite**  $\text{Ni}(\text{Se}^{4+}\text{O}_3)\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  monoclinic 2/m – prismatic  
 $\beta = 99.08^\circ$

**Cobaltomenite**  $\text{Co}(\text{Se}^{4+}\text{O}_3)\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  monoclinic 2/m – prismatic  
 $\beta = 98.6^\circ$

**Alfredopetrovite**  $\text{Al}_2(\text{Se}^{4+}\text{O}_3)_3\cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  hexagonal  $\bar{6}m2$ -  
ditrigonal dipyramidal

**Pauladamsite**  $\text{Cu}_4(\text{SeO}_3)(\text{SO}_4)(\text{OH})_4\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  triclinic -  
 $\bar{1}$  - pinacoidal

**Schmiederite**  $\text{Pb}_2\text{Cu}_2(\text{Se}^{6+}\text{O}_4)(\text{Se}^{4+}\text{O}_3)(\text{OH})_4$  mono-  
clinic 2/m – prismatic  $\beta = 101.96^\circ$

I would like to focus on two specimens containing Chalcomenite. The first comes from Bolivia and the second from the Democratic Republic of Congo. The Chalcomenite from Bolivia is almost overwhelmed by the associated pink Ahlfeldite. Ahlfeldite  $\text{Ni}(\text{SeO}_3)\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  is the nickel analog of Chalcomenite. In pure form, Ahlfeldite would be green due to nickel ion  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ , but the Ahlfeldite from this locality contains enough cobalt  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  to make its color pink. In fact, a cobalt-dominant mineral exists Cobaltomenite  $\text{Co}(\text{SeO}_3)\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , which is deep red.

With this Bolivian specimen, the nickel outnumbers the cobalt, but cobalt is a much stronger chromophore, so cobalt dominates the color. Ahlfeldite is monoclinic, like Clinochalcomenite and Cobaltomenite, whereas Chalcomenite is orthorhombic. Let's look at two photos, one taken with the stereomicroscope and one taken with a macro lens plus supplementary Raynox lens. I could not decide which I liked better, with neither being perfect.



**Chalcomenite** (blue), **Ahlfeldite** (pink) and **Alfredopetrovite** (white). El Dragon mine, Porco Municipality, Antonio Quijarro Province, Potosi, Bolivia. FOV 9 mm. Specimen and photo by Michael Pabst, using stereomicroscope, stacking 25 images.

Continued next page.



## Chalcomenite continued



*Chalcomenite (blue), Ahlfeldite (red) and Alfredopetrovite (white). El Dragon Mine. Bolivia. FOV 9 mm. Specimen and photo by Michael Pabst, using macro lens + Raynox lens, stacking 25 images.*

The next images show two views at higher magnification, achieved with the focusing rail and the Mitutoyo lens (see my previous article on Pauladamsite for more information about this photographic apparatus).



*Chalcomenite (blue), Ahlfeldite (red) and Alfredopetrovite (white). El Dragon Mine. Bolivia. FOV 1.5 mm. Specimen and photo by Michael Pabst, using WeMacro rail and Mitutoyo infinite focus lens, stacking 25 images.*



*Chalcomenite (blue), Ahlfeldite (red) and Alfredopetrovite (white). El Dragon Mine. Bolivia. FOV 1.3 mm. Specimen and photo by Michael Pabst, using WeMacro rail and Mitutoyo infinite focus lens, stacking 14 images.*

Mindat has photos like my photos above, taken by Alex Earl: <https://www.mindat.org/photo-808134.html> and by R. Nakanishi: <https://www.mindat.org/photo-1344899.html>. There are also two beautiful photos of single crystals of Chalcomenite by A. Abril: <https://www.mindat.org/photo-1274066.html>, and by Italo Camprostrini: <https://www.mindat.org/photo-1050601.html>. These photos showing well-defined crystals are impressive.

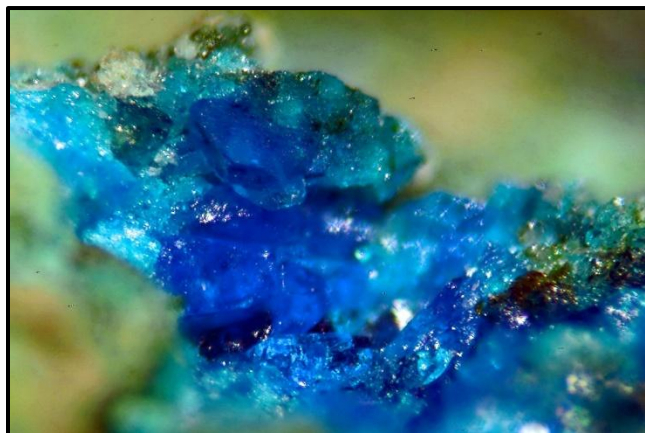
My second specimen of Chalcomenite comes from the Musonoi Mine, Kolwezi, Mutshatsha, Lualaba, in the DR Congo. Musonoi is famous for its uranium minerals. In addition to Chalcomenite, the specimen also features at least three copper **uranyl** selenites: Derriksite, Demesmaekerite, and Marthozite, as well as an associated barium uranyl selenite Guilleminite. Derriksite shows variation from light green to dark greenish brown. This specimen is highly radioactive. (I will describe these uranyl selenite minerals in the next article.)

Continued next page.

**Chalcomenite continued**

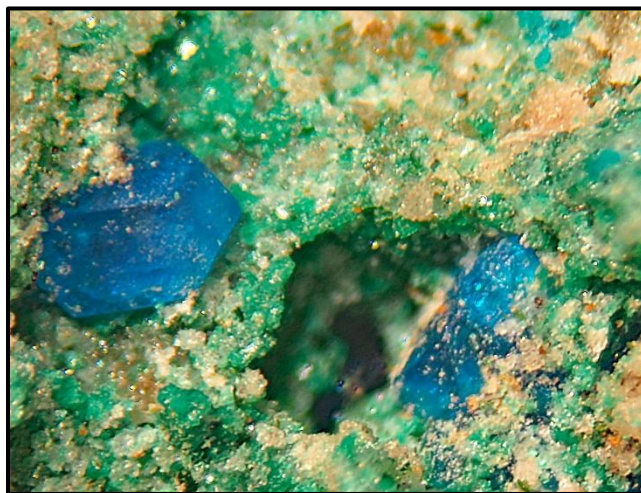


*Chalcomenite (blue), with olive green Demesmaekerite. Musonoi Mine, Kolwezi, Mutshatsha, Lualaba, DR Congo. FOV 6 mm. Specimen and photo by Michael Pabst, using macro + Raynox lens, stacking 100 images.*



*Chalcomenite (deep blue), Derriksite (green) and Demesmaekerite (brown). Musonoi, DR Congo. FOV 2 mm. Specimen and photo by Michael Pabst, using stereo microscope, stacking 6 images.*

A view of another area on the Musonoi specimen:



*Chalcomenite (blue) and Clinochalcomenite? (green). Musonoi Mine, FOV 2.5 mm. Specimen and photo by Michael Pabst, using stereo microscope, stacking 16 images.*

In the next article, this Musonoi specimen and another specimen from Musonoi will be examined more closely to describe the three copper uranyl selenites and related minerals.

**George Loud: Our Legacy Member**

By Kathy Hrechka

George Loud has been a member of our local clubs for years. Upon retirement as a career Patent Attorney, he and his wife Karen moved to Hilton Head, SC. However, living away from their only daughter and grandchild, they moved back to our area. Geology club members are elated, as George has many acquaintances and an extensive local collecting knowledge.

While driving home through South Carolina with our newly graduated college son Michael, we stopped for lunch with George. Driving up to their home was surreal, bayou style trees, quietness, and open land. Once inside their home, George invited me into his “museum of rocks and minerals”. I was awestruck at his collection. He allowed me to take some photographs, but I never wanted to publish them in the Mineral Mite, due to his personal privacy. Fast forward, George sold most of his collection before moving back to Maryland. I hope you enjoy the following photos.



*George Loud, retired Patent Attorney in his personal museum Hilton Head Island, SC. Photo by K. Hrechka*



*The New Jersey Zinc Company locality collection*



*Amelia & Powhatan County, Virginia locality*



*Centreville Quarry, Fairfax County locality*

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Arkansas localities collection



Arkansas localities collection. Note: Diamond

**George Loud's Exhibit 2019  
46<sup>th</sup> Rochester Mineral Symposium  
Minerals from Mountains I Have Skied**

**"Black Diamond George" skied at  
Breckenridge, Aspen, & Telluride, CO  
Park City, Utah, & Gore Mountain, NY**



The Mineral Mite March 2025

Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area, Inc.



### Caveman Clutches

By Kathy Hrechka, Editor

I recently attended an ArtFest by the Sea, along Juno Beach, FL. One vendor featuring rocks caught my attention. Nature by Design Art, entrepreneur, Timothy combined rocks with designer handbags, known as “Caveman Clutches”. Even though they are simply décor, each one has a story to tell. Timothy featured Herkimer quartz in matrix and filled the purse’s zippered opening with quartz crystals. He successfully prospected a pocket at Herkimer, NY. I hope you choose your favorite clutch from my photos below.



*Herkimer naturally in matrix, top two. Purse filled with quartz.*



**Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area, Inc.**



*Crystals inside of geode, front of purse.*



*Same geode from left, with open pocket on backside.*



Photo on right: Timothy of Naure by Design holds a self-collected Herkimer locality, Caveman clutch. He was a delight to chat with and is proud to have created a first ever Caveman clutch line of purse décor. Check out his website [naturebydesignart.com](http://naturebydesignart.com).  
*Photos by Kathy Hrechka, shopping for Mother's Day.*



## Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area, Inc.

**Micromount Club Zoom Host:** Steve Sorrell resides in Melbourne, Australia and hosts various geology persons of interest at his micromount meeting each month on Zoom. You can sign up for Steve's programs, while enjoying friendly faces within our geology community around the globe.



<https://crocoite.com/index.php/2023/07/the-micromount-club-zoom-sessions/>

All sessions are held on the third Wednesday of the month (unless noted otherwise) **6am Australian time**. Steve has set up a recurring Zoom meeting, which means you only need to register once, and join as many sessions as you like.

### 2025 Micromount Club Zoom Meetings: 2pm ET

(Please verify your local time zone once signed up).

**March 19:** "Minerals from the South of Spain" presented by Henk Smeets.

**April 16:** "Minerals of Japan" presented by Steve Sorrell.

**May 21:** "Crystal shapes: spheres, cubes, fibers and more" presented by Frank Loman.

**June 18:** "Minerals on Stamps" presented by Steve Sorrell.

**July 16:** Topic & Speaker TBD.

*MNCA Editor's note: thanks to Steve Sorrell from Melbourne, Australia, we have been connecting with new mineral friends around the world for the past three years. I have learned that he is a master photomicrographer, as well as an author of mineral books and a talented mineral artist.*

## Smithsonite from the Mohawk mine, San Bernardino County, California?

By David Fryauff

What are the tiny dodecahedral crystals? I believe them to be smithsonite but cannot verify.



Mohawk mine, San Bernardino County, California  
Photo by David Fryauff



## Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area, Inc.



American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

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

**Please read the AFMS bulletin attached in original monthly email to MNCA members.**

2025 Purpose of the AFMS: To promote popular interest and education in the various Earth Sciences, and in particular the subjects of Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Lapidary, and related subjects, and to sponsor and provide ways to coordinate the work and efforts of all interested persons and groups; to sponsor and encourage the formation and international development of Societies and Regional Federations and thereby to strive toward greater international good will and fellowship.



Celebrating over 50 years!

The Rock & Gem magazine is recognized as the official magazine of the AFMS.  
Free archived downloads

[Rock & Gem Magazine Archive : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive](#)



Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies

(EFMLS)  
<https://efmls.org>

Communication and Involvement  
Are the Keys to Our Success!

**Please read the EFMLS bulletin attached in original monthly email to MNCA members.**

### March 2025 Local Geology Club Meetings

**3: Northern Virginia Mineral Club NVMC**  
Meeting 6:30pm Holiday Party with MNCA  
[www.novamineralclub.org](http://www.novamineralclub.org)

**5: Mineralogical Society of the District of Columbia MSDC** Meeting 7:30pm on Zoom  
[www.mineralogicalsocietyofdc.org](http://www.mineralogicalsocietyofdc.org)

**10: The Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Montgomery County, Maryland – GLMSMC**  
Meeting 7:30 pm [www.glmsmc.com](http://www.glmsmc.com)

**?: The Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Washington, DC – GLMS-DC** meeting 7 p.m.  
Chevy Chase Community Center, 5601 Connecticut Ave; Washington, DC. [www.glmsdc.org](http://www.glmsdc.org)

**19: Baltimore Mineral Society BMS** meeting  
[www.baltimoremineralsociety.org](http://www.baltimoremineralsociety.org)

**24: Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area, Inc. MNCA** Meeting 3pm Kings Park Library  
[www.dcmicrominerals.org](http://www.dcmicrominerals.org)

### MNCA Dues are Due 2025

Note: MNCA members, remember to pay your dues for 2025. Details are found on page 18.  
Michael Pabst, Treasurer

## Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area, Inc.



### Geo Word of the Day and its definition

**argon-40/argon-39 age method** (ar'-gon) A variation of the *potassium-argon age method* in which the sample to be dated is first irradiated with neutrons, converting some potassium-39 to argon-39. Argon is then extracted from the sample (either in one step or incrementally), and its isotopic composition analyzed. The amount of argon-39 is a measure of potassium content, and the ratio of radiogenic argon-40 to argon-39 is a function of age. It is sometimes possible to detect extraneous argon, and to determine whether or not the dated material has been disturbed by later thermal or chemical events (Miller, 1972).

**khondalite** (khon'-dal-ite) A group of metamorphosed aluminous sediments consisting of garnet-quartz-sillimanite rocks with garnetiferous quartzites, graphite schists, and marbles (Walker, 1902, p.11). Rarely used. Named after Khonds and the Khondalite series, India.

**mayingite** A steel-black cubic mineral of the *gersdorffite* group: IrBiTe. Syn: telluromayingite.

**xylinite** (xy'-lin-ite) A variety of *provitrinite* characteristic of xylain and consisting of xylem or lignified tissue. Cf. *suberinite*; *periblinite*; *telinite*.

All terms and definitions come from the [Glossary of Geology, 5th Edition Revised](#).

GeoWord of the Day is brought to you by: EnviroTech! [envirotechonline.com](http://envirotechonline.com).

Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area  
[www.dcmicrominerals.org](http://www.dcmicrominerals.org)

We are meeting at Kings Park Library in Burke, VA  
3-5:30pm (forth Monday to Wednesday)

**MNCA Purpose:** To promote, educate and encourage interest in geology, mineralogy, and related sciences.

President: David Fryauff  
Vice President: Jeff Guerber  
Secretary: John Sanborn  
Treasurer: Michael Pabst  
Editor/Historian: Kathy Hrechka  
Website: Kathy Hrechka  
AMC Conference: open

### The society is a member of:

\* Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (EFMLS) [www.efmls.org](http://www.efmls.org)  
\* American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org) affiliation

**Dues: MNCA Membership Dues 2025**  
\$15 (single) or \$20 (family) donations  
**MNCA - Michael Pabst, Treasurer**  
**270 Rachel Drive**  
**Penn Laird, VA 22846**

### Editor's Note: By Kathy Hrechka

Send your articles and photos to your editor.  
**Club Article Deadline is the 1st of each month.**  
**The Mineral Mite will be emailed by the 5th.**  
**No newsletter July/August**

**Inducted into Editor's Hall of Fame – 2018**  
**EFMLS Trophy 2021 Small bulletins**



### Newsletter inputs:

\* David Fryauff  
\* Jeff Guerber  
\* Michael Pabst  
\* Peter Chin  
\* John Sanborn  
\* Kathy Hrechka

