

VIRGINIA MINERAL PROJECT

-January Report-

State of the Project

January saw the official launch of the VMP for Virginia. Over the course of the month, the VMP organized over 20+ meetings with collectors, museums, universities and clubs. The goal for January was to let the community know that this project was happening and that the recent \$15,000 donation had kickstarted the funding to see this project through. Community response has been incredible and the VMP continues to find and facilitate new relationships with academic and museum officials. Social media posting of "daily-articles" help promote transparency and keep the public engaged along the journey. I decided to use the social media to highlight collectors, museums, and shops as I travel to their locations.

Donation links and partnership information is now up on the Science Museum of Western Virginia's website. A special shout out to the museum and their staff for making this year possible! Check out the link at: <http://smwv.org/virginia-mineral-project/>

VMP State Directory COMING SOON!

Want to learn more about clubs, rock shops, and museums in Virginia? Need information on some of the best sites to learn about minerals in the state?! Look no further! The VMP is developing a state directory, to be added upon and updated every year with information about all these organizations. Even better, there will be a map showing all these across the state! Releasing February 2020.



Monthly Takeaways

- Presented to D.C Mineral Club, Lynchburg Club, and Tidewater Club.
- VMP will now be attending Montgomery Co. Show on March 21-22.
- Future talks planned with Virginia Penninsula Club, Virginia Master Naturalists, Montgomery Club, and Southern Maryland Club.
- Meetings with Excalibur Minerals, VA Rock Shop, The Valley Rock Shop, and Packards Rocks.
- Over 100 mineral specimens photographed and new collections to review.

Virginia Mineral Project

"Preserving history, one mineral at a time."

Follow us at: <https://virginiamineralproject.org>

Looking to February...

The VMP will start off February with an incredible trip to the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show in Arizona! I will be meeting with possible sponsors and learning about new possibilities to bridge the gap between the east and west coast. While this is an incredible show, the VMP will be taking this opportunity to network and complete business. I will return February 8th and begin working on secondary meetings with those I spoke with in January. This month will be vital in rallying donations and figuring out supporting mechanisms in the future. My goal will also be to meet with the State Geological Survey and find ways to collaborate on obtaining research documents and photographs of the collections. February will be vital in figuring out the future of the project into 2021-2022.

VIRGINIA ROCKHOONDING



THE OFFICIAL PAGE FOR VIRGINIA ROCKHOONDS!

"COLLECT. PRESERVE. EDUCATE."