



President's Message

Thank you for your active participation during 2017! Whether you are an elected leader or a behind-the-scenes worker, your contributions to the Section(s) and Academy are significant and appreciated. Your input helps create learning and teaching opportunities at section meetings, workshops, field trips, and the Academy's Spring Lecture and Fall Scientific Paper Session. These occasions fulfill our quest for knowledge, allow us to share our interests, and make friends. Your zest for teaching the public and engaging them in scientific activities is also noteworthy. This includes taking part in community events at Mendon Ponds Park, Science Exploration Days, the state science teachers' conference, Strassenburgh Planetarium telescope observations, RMSC Science Days, quarry open houses, and public star parties.

Best wishes for a productive and happy 2018!

Jutta Siefert Dudley,
President RAS

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RAS Board of Directors Nominations Wanted

Each year the Academy elects Board officers and directors at the Spring Meeting to oversee the

operations of the Academy. We are looking for members who will participate in the monthly meetings and help guide Section and Academy activities. The following positions have no candidates:

Membership chair: Provides information about the academy at public events that we participate in. Develops strategies to find and keep members. Helps the Treasurer maintain an updated membership list. Participates in BOD meetings and Academy events. Elected for one year.

Director: Participates in BOD meetings and Academy events. Elected for a 3-year term.

A slate is to be presented by the Nominations Committee at the January 17, 2018 BOD meeting. If you are interested in serving in one of the open positions indicated above, contact Nominations Chair Jeff Gutterman (jsgy@yahoo.com) **before December ends** so the nominations committee can consider your request.

Positions held by officers and directors at the end of their terms are contestable and will be listed in the next Bulletin. For those positions, Academy by-laws allow a member with a petition signed by ten other members, to be placed on the ballot. Secretary

Helen Haller must receive this petition, along with a brief sketch of the candidate's qualifications, by **February 1, 2018**.

Members will receive ballots in the RAS Bulletin a month prior to the Annual Meeting when ballots are tabulated and the results are announced.

PAPER SESSION SYNOPSIS

We had a record turnout of students, faculty, academy members and others from across central and western NYS for our 44th Scientific Paper Session on November 11. There were about 160 poster presentations and 44 oral reports. The attendees were kept engaged discussing the research enthusiastically shared by the presenters. Such productive interaction is the goal of the Scientific Paper Session and we can be proud we are continuing a program envisioned

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many years ago by professors Melvin Wentland and Larry King!

The Larry King Memorial Lecture was presented by Dr. Jeffrey Wyatt, who described a community-led program in Borneo that has improved the lives of humans and their animals with the consequence of conserving a rainforest and the wildlife (including threatened orangutans) within it.

We are indebted to our hosts, the faculty of the Biology Department at St. John Fisher College. Special thanks go to Drs. Chris Collins and Mike Boller for their dedication to making the event a great success.



Research projects are shared with visitors at the RAS Scientific Paper Session held recently at St. John Fisher College.
Photo Credit: J Dudley

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Membership Form
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For your convenience, please pay your dues to the R.A.S. and its sections with a single check. **Make check payable to: Rochester Academy of Science, Inc.**
 CIRCLE the amount you are paying for an Academy category (shaded column) and for the Section(s) in which you wish membership.

Membership Categories <i>R.A.S. dues are a prerequisite for section membership</i>	Rochester Academy of Science	Anthropology Section	Astronomy Section	Life Sciences Section	Fossil Section	Mineral Section	Total
Member (Individual over age 18)	\$10.00	\$2.00	\$17.00	\$2.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	
Family (Including students to age 18)	\$15.00	\$3.00	\$22.00	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$6.00	
Student (age 18 to full-time undergrad.)	\$5.00	\$1.00	\$5.00	\$1.00	\$5.00	\$2.00	
Supporting (Individual or family)	\$20.00	*****	\$30.00	\$10.00	\$20.00	\$10.00	
Patron (Individual or family)	\$30.00	*****	\$50.00	\$20.00	\$30.00	\$20.00	
Life (Individual only)	\$200.00	*****	\$300.00	\$40.00	*****	*****	
Gift (Thank you!) Fill in amount ⇒							
Check box(es) if you are interested in volunteering ⇒ ⇒ ⇒ ⇒ ⇒							

Events for December, 2017

For updates to events, check the Academy website, <http://www.rasny.org>, and Section websites.

MINERAL MEETING

There is no meeting in December.

RAS BOARD MEETING

There is no RAS board meeting for the month of December.

LIFE SCIENCES/ HERBARIUM WORKSHOP

There are no Life Sciences Field Trips or Herbarium Workshops scheduled for December.

ASTRONOMY SECTION ACTIVITIES

Young Astronomers, Imaging Lecture at RIT by Joel Schmid, and ASRAS Winter Lecture – for schedule see ASRAS Facebook page or website: www.rocheasterastronomy.org/calendar-of-events

1 Fri: ASTRONOMY SECTION MEETING

7:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m. Strasenburgh Planetarium, 657 East Ave, Rochester. Do not go to RIT. Annual holiday party, Steve Fentress's awesome planetarium show, and Outstanding Astronomer Award. Please bring a dish to pass. For more information, contact Mark Minarich: (585) 257-6042.

4 Mon: ASTRONOMY BOARD MEETING

7:00 p.m. University of Rochester, Bausch & Lomb Hall, 4th floor Chart Room. All ASRAS members are welcome. Contact Mark Minarich: (585) 257-6042.

5 Tues: FOSSIL SECTION MEETING

7:30 p.m. Brighton Town Hall. Annual Show-n-Tell and pizza party. Attendees are asked to bring their favorite finds from this year or years past. Contact: Dan Krisher, (585) 698-3147.

9 Sat: TELESCOPE REPAIR AND EDUCATION WORKSHOP

11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Strasenburgh Planetarium of the RMSC.

Have an underutilized telescope that needs repair, mirror cleaned or training to get better performance? Bring your scope and have ASRAS bring it to tiptop shape. Contact: Joel Schmid 533-2097.

10 Sun: ASTRONOMY PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. (or later, if skies are clear). Marian and Max Farash Center for Observational Astronomy, 8355 County Road 14 Ionia, NY 14475. For cancellations or changes contact Mark Minarich: (585) 257-6042. or see: www.rocheasterastronomy.org/calendar-of-events

10 Sun: ANTHROPOLOGY FIELD TRIP

10:30 a.m. The Mills Mansion, Staatsburgh State Historic Site, Mt. Morris. Built 1832, showcases 19th century period decorations, collections of Native American and other artifacts from the grounds of the site.

Carpool at: NE corner Double Tree Inn, Jefferson Road near the 390. Contact; Alex Smith, (585) 750-3329.

ONGOING EVENT

ASRAS will operate the telescope, or one on the sidewalk, at Strasenburgh Planetarium on mostly clear Saturday nights. Contact: Jim Seidewand, (585) 703-9876.

JANUARY UPCOMING EVENT

14 Sun Winterfest

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Mendon Ponds Park. Join the community at the County's Annual Winterfest at Mendon Ponds Park. Enjoy hiking, racing, geocaching, ride a wagon, watch sled dogs run, meet wild critters, a patrol dog and horse, plus much more! See: <http://www2.monroecounty.gov/parks-winterfest>. Don't forget, we'd like your help at the Astronomy, Fossil, and Mineral booths.



Sharpless 2-112: very small, diffuse emission nebula in the constellation Cygnus; 25,000 LY across and 5,500 LY from Earth. Image taken by a telescope in Rowe, NM controlled remotely from an observatory outside Bangkok, Thailand. Shot with a narrowband hydrogen alpha filter using a 14" telescope at f/4.75. Credit: Andy Chatman

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ABOUT THE ACADEMY - The Rochester Academy of Science, Inc. is an organization that has been promoting interest in the natural sciences since 1881, with special focus on the western New York state region. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in science. Dues are minimal for the Academy and are listed in the membership application online. Each Section also sets dues to cover Section-related publications and mailings.

For information, contact President Jutta Dudley at (585) 385-2368 or by e-mail: pres@rasny.org.

The Academy Internet website is

<http://www.rasny.org>

Or see us on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/RochesterAcademyofScience>.

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The Academy postal address is P.O. Box 92642, Rochester NY 14692-0642.

ROCHESTER ACADEMY OF SCIENCE CONTACTS

		(585) home // work
Jutta Dudley	President	385-2368
Michael Grenier	Vice President	671-8738
Helen D. Haller	Secretary	387-9570
William Hallahan	Treasurer	624-1628//389-2552
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Stephen Busschaert	Mineral	351-7633 (c)
Elizabeth Pixley	Herbarium	334-0977
Jutta Dudley	Publications	385-2368
Ted Lechman	<i>Bulletin</i> Editor	490-1132 (c)
William Hallahan	Student Grants	624-1628
Paul Dudley	Website	385-2368
Frank Bov	Director '18	385-1518
Chris Collins	Director '18	(518)605-5614//385-8496
Jeff Gutterman	Director '19	392-8299//789-1364
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Douglas Kostyk	Director '20	943-3419
Karen Wolf	Director '20	670-9709//273-4500