

Rochester Academy of Science
P.O. Box 92642
Rochester, NY 14692-0642
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April, 2008 - Vol. 62, #4, Page 4

ABOUT THE **ACADEMY** - The Rochester Academy Of Science, Inc. is an organization which 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. Each Section also sets dues to cover Section-related publications and mailings.



For applications and/or more information contact membership chairman Stephen Busschaert, 54 Keswick Rd., Rochester, NY 14609; by telephone 288-5683; or by e-mail <sbusschaert@msn.com>.

The *Academy* Internet web page is <http://www.rasny.org>

The *Astronomy Section* Information phone number is (585) 987-5330. The *Astronomy Section* Internet web page is <http://rochesterastronomy.org>

This “**BULLETIN**” is produced monthly, *except July and September*, by the *Astronomy Section, Rochester Academy of Science*. The editor is Frank Bov, 16 Gladbrook Rd., Pittsford, NY 14534 Phone (585) 422-9910 (days) and (585) 385-1518 (evenings), e-mail <editor@rasny.org>

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		(585)	home	work
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The Academy Postal address is P.O. Box 92642, Rochester, NY 14692

Rochester Academy of Science

BULLETIN

“An organization of people in the Natural Sciences”



April, 2008 - Vol. 62, #4

RAS 2008 SPRING LECTURE SERIES

*The Scientist in the Courtroom:
Sex, Lies and Videotape*

Don Siegel
Professor of Earth Science
Syracuse University
Wednesday, April 2
7:00 PM Lecture (FREE)
Room 183
Nazareth College Arts Center

Science done in different settings has different standards of proof. In academia, scientific peer review demands a high degree of certainty. In criminal law, courtroom decisions must be “beyond reasonable doubt”. In contrast, attorneys in civil law cases only need to prove a "preponderance of evidence.” Public policy also often leads to low standards of scientific proof because of the “precautionary principle” which assumes guilt until proven innocent.

In this seminar, Don Siegel discusses ethical and other difficulties scientists can have moving back and forth between doing their science in academia and in the “real world” of law and public policy.

All are welcome to join us for dinner afterward.

35th ROCHESTER MINERALOGICAL SYMPOSIUM

Thursday, April 10th through
Sunday April 13th

Radisson Hotel,
175 Jefferson Rd., Henrietta, NY
The Rochester Mineralogical Symposium attracts people from all over the world who are interested in all facets of mineralogy. Anyone interested in knowing more about rocks and minerals is welcome.

The emphasis is on education and lectures – a symposium. Lecture titles include *Around the World in 17 Years, Robbing the Sperry Garniture, Minerals and the Internet, What's New in Minerals, Antique Mineralogy and Books, and Placer diamonds of Namibia*. Displays of many fine minerals will be available.

The Thursday evening program is FREE to all RAS members. The lecture begins at 8:00 PM. The speaker will be John Betts; his talk is titled: *Diamonds: Myths and Misconceptions*.

Tickets are \$65 for the weekend, or \$30 per day. \$5/day for students with ID. Under 16 free. Call (315)682-0387 for more information.

RMSC DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR LECTURE

Energy, Environment, and Economic Development: World Challenges

Francis J. DiSalvo, Ph.D.

Professor of Physical Science
Cornell University
Wednesday, April 30^h, 7:30PM
Eisenhart Auditorium
Rochester Museum and Science Center

Sustainable development provides for the present without compromising the needs of future generations. The most developed nations and modern businesses have the largest stake and responsibility in addressing the "three Es" as a connected system. Find out about efforts to leverage Cornell University's diverse research and educational activities in the "three Es" to have real world impact.

Dr. DiSalvo is John A. Newman Professor of Physical Science at Cornell University and Director of the Cornell Center for a Sustainable Future.

Tickets are \$15 for non-RMSC members, \$8 for students through grade 12 or college students with ID. Call (585)697-1942 for more information and reservations.

ROCHESTER ACADEMY OF SCIENCE
BALLOT FOR JULY 2008 – JUNE 2009 OFFICERS

Please vote for each office. Note there are (as always) TWO Directors' slots to fill.

OFFICE	NAME	√	WRITE-IN CANDIDATE
President:	Stan Spector *		
Vice President:	Chuck Hiler		
Membership:	Stephen Busschaert *		
Treasurer:	William Hallahan *		
Secretary:	Frank Bov		
Member, Board of Directors, 3-year term (Please select TWO candidates)	Jutta Dudley *		
	Helen Haller		
	Paul Forcella †		
Notes: * indicates incumbent † not recommended by the Nominating Committee			

Completed ballots can be returned to the RAS post office box, or delivered in person at any RAS or Section meeting.

**AIA ROCHESTER
LECTURE**

***Early Human Populations
in the New World: A Biased
Perspective***

Dr. James Adovosio

Director of Mercyhurst
Archaeological Institute

Thursday, April 3rd, 7:30PM
Memorial Art Gallery

When Columbus discovered that the "New World" was populated, he wondered: Who are these people; Where did they come from; How did they get here; and perhaps most vexatiously, When did they arrive? Dr. Adovosio evaluates recent theories and discoveries that may place the initial occupation of the New World earlier than the 11,500-year-old Clovis horizon. A review of the handful of sites which have

withstood scientific scrutiny indicates that not only have humans been in the New World considerably earlier than the Clovis horizon but that they were leading lifestyles radically different than those posited for the so-called Clovis hunters.

Dr. Adovasio received his PhD from the University of Utah and D.Sc. from Washington and Jefferson University. He specializes in prehistory, archaeological method and theory, prehistoric technology and material analysis, geoarchaeology, as well as the Archaeology of North America, Mesoamerica, and the former Soviet Union.

Cosponsored with the
Archaeological Institute of
America, Rochester society.

Free with Gallery admission (free
to MAG and AIA members).

**ANNUAL ELECTION OF
OFFICERS AND
DIRECTORS**

Each May, the RAS elects a new slate of officers for a 1 year term, and two of six directors for a 3-year term, to start the following June 1. Some years, the Nominating Committee has been unable to find candidates for all positions. The opposite is true this year.

The Nominating Committee calls your attention to the ballot Director, and highlight the presence of *three* candidates for the *two* positions.

To assist you with this choice, the Nominating Committee submits the enclosed biographies of the candidates for your review. Please consider the candidate's qualifications when completing your ballot.

EVENTS for APRIL 2008

(For updates to events, check the Academy web site, <http://www.rasny.org>, or appropriate Section web site.)

**Tue 01 FOSSIL
MEETING**

7:30 PM Community Meeting
Room, Brighton Town Hall, 2300
Elmwood Ave. Dr. Jorg Maletz,
University of Buffalo, will speak
about his research on
Radiolarians. For members
interested in a little pre-meeting
socialising with our guest
speakers, you are welcome to join
us for dinner at the Pomodoro
Grill, 1290 University Ave, at
5:30 p.m. Contact John Handley
585 802 8567 or
jhandley@rochester.rr.com for
more information.

**Wed 02 RAS
SPRING LECTURE**

7:00 PM at Nazareth College Art
Center, room 183. The speaker
will be Don Siegel, and his talk is
titled *The Scientist in the
Courtroom: Sex, Lies and
Videotape*. Look for more
information in this issue.

**Thur 3 ANTHROPOLOGY
LECTURE**

7:30 PM at the Memorial Art
Gallery. 6:15 PM Docent tour of
anthropologically oriented
collections starting in the Atrium
just inside the entrance. The tour
will be followed by the AIA
Lecture. Dr. James Adovosio will
speak on "Early Human
Populations in the New World: A
Biased Perspective." Contact
Karen Wolf 670-9709, to reserve
your place in the tour as numbers
are limited.

**Fri 04 ASTRONOMY
GENERAL MEETING**

7:30 PM at RIT, Gosnell Hall,
room A300. This month's
meeting speaker is TBD, plus
short talks by members Visitors
are always welcome. Come early
and socialize. For information,
contact Carol Latta at 230-9548,
or <cosmos@rochester.rr.com>

**Thur-Sun 10-13 ROCHESTER
MINERALOGICAL
SYMPOSIUM**

The 35th Rochester Mineralogical
Symposium will be held at the
Radisson Hotel Rochester
Airport. Look for more
information in this issue.

**Thur 10 MINERAL
SYMPOSIUM LECTURE**

8:00 PM at the Radisson Hotel
Rochester Airport. The opening
lecture of the Rochester
Mineralogical Symposium is free
to all RAS members. The speaker
is mineral dealer, John Betts,
speaking on "Diamonds: Myths
and Misconceptions." For
information, call Al Mura at 227-
9931 or check the Academy web
site <http://www.rasny.org> for
updates
Please Note: There is no regular
Mineral Section meeting this
month due to the Symposium.

**Sat 12 LIFE SCIENCES
OPEN HOUSE**

2:00 to 9:00 PM at Karen Wolf's
home, 1397 Five Mile Line Road,
Penfield. This is a chance for new
members to meet the other

members of the group and to learn
about the many opportunities and
activities within the RAS, many
of which overlap with the Life
Sciences Section. A dish to pass
supper will be around 6:30. At
2:30 we will tour Bauman's Farm
Market (within walking distance
of Karen's house). Call Karen for
directions at 670-9709.

**Sat 12 FOSSIL
FIELD TRIP**

to Niagara Gorge with Professor
Gordon Baird, SUNY Fredonia.
Contact John Handley at
jhandley@rochester.rr.com or 585
802 8567 for more information.

**Sat 19 FOSSIL
FIELD TRIP**

to Murder Creek and Elevenmile
Creek, Genesee County, with
Professor Gordon Baird, SUNY
Fredonia. Contact John Handley
at jhandley@rochester.rr.com or
585 802 8567 for more
information.

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