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Rochester Academy of Science
BULLETIN

“An organization of people in the Natural Sciences”

June, 2008 - Vol. 62, #6



**PRESIDENTS REPORT
JUNE 2008**

Make this a summer of science! Summer is a great time to explore the outdoors and science.

Come join the Mineral and Fossil Sections on some of their collecting field trips. They are open to all members. Look at the events listing in this issue of the *Bulletin* or on the RAS website for details and schedules. Some of the fossil field trips are very accessible and so are recommended for families.

Get out to one of the Astronomy Section’s star parties when the weather is good (or at least warm) and bring your family to explore the skies with some experienced observers that lead these parties. I go just to look at the stars and I know nothing about using the telescopes. If you are interested in more detailed astronomy attend this summer’s RocheStar Fest.

The Life Science Section will be hosting walks this summer. Check

their schedule for the dates. Or make a point to go to one of the Herbarium work sessions and check out the collection. We are updating and cleaning the collection as we catalog it in a computer database. This is a great walk through the history of Rochester since some of the specimens were collected before 1850.

You may want to kick off the summer with the whole family at the ADK Expo at Mendon Ponds Park. It’s quite a display by outdoor groups and science groups that will entertain everyone. It is really an event to attend. If you go, be sure to find the RAS display, and see if the staff needs any help.

Don’t sit on your couch, get up and explore science.

I would also like to congratulate the officers for the next year.

Stan Spector	President
Charles Hiler	Vice Pres.
Frank Bov	Secretary
William Hallahan	Treasurer
Steven Busschaert	Membership
Helen Haller	Director ‘11
Jutta Dudley	Director ‘11

Stan Spector
President

**35TH ANNUAL FALL
SCIENTIFIC PAPER
SESSION**

**FIRST CALL FOR
ABSTRACTS**

**TO: Members of the Academy
and Science Community**

The 35th Annual Fall Scientific Paper Session will be hosted by Nazareth College on Saturday, November 1, 2008. This session provides a forum for Academy members, the collegiate community and others engaged in scientific research to present the results of their investigations in an atmosphere that promotes discussion and interaction.

Presentations may be accomplished in two formats, an oral report or a poster. An abstract of each presentation should be received by Friday, October 24, 2008.

Registration will be held in the Reading Room (adjacent to the main lobby) of the Shults Center, beginning at 8:30 AM. Refreshments will be provided throughout the morning.

For more information, and for the entire participant package, look for the Paper Session link on the RAS web site, or go directly to: <http://rasny.org/FallPaper/Firstcal1-5-12-08.pdf>

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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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The Academy Postal address is P.O. Box 92642, Rochester, NY 14692

EVENTS for JUNE and JULY 2008

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

EVENTS IN JUNE

Tue 03 FOSSIL ANNUAL PICNIC AND ELECTION

Location to be announced. If you wish to attend or want more information, please call John Handley at 585 802 8567, or <jhandley@rochester.rr.com>.

Fri 06 ASTRONOMY GENERAL MEETING

7:30 PM at the Wolk Observatory in Ionia, NY. This month's meeting features Dave Bishop, with his annual review of the year's astronomy images. We'll also have demonstrations of the site's astronomical equipment. Visitors are always welcome. Come early (6:30) for hot dogs on the grill. For information, contact Carol Latta at 230-9548, or <cosmos@rochester.rr.com>

Sat 07 FOSSIL FIELD TRIP

A trip to Jaycox Run in Livingston County to collect in the Jaycox Shale Member of the Ludlowville Formation of the Hamilton Group. If you wish to attend or want more information, please contact Terry Carter at <tcarter1@rochester.rr.com> or John Handley at 585 802 8567, or <jhandley@rochester.rr.com>

Sat 07 ASTRONOMY STAR PARTY

10:00 to 11:00 PM at Northampton Park, Hubbell Road, near the ski lodge parking lot. Join us for views of Saturn and

deep sky objects in members' telescopes. Come early, before completely dark, to best appreciate the lineup of the planets. Stay a while for best telescopic views. Dress very warm as evenings may be very chilly! For information, contact Jim Seidewand at 723-6225.

Sun 8 MINERAL PICNIC/SILENT AUCTION

Noon to 5:00 PM at Roberts Cabin, Henrietta Town Park, Calkins Rd. The Rochester Lapidary Society has invited us to attend their annual picnic. Bring your family, and a dish to pass. Hot dogs, hamburgers, and beverages will be provided. A highlight of the picnic is the Silent Auction. For more information, call Al Mura at 227-9931 or the RAS web site for updates.

Sat 14 RAS ADK EXPO

10AM to 6PM at Mendon Ponds Park, various locations. The Adirondack Mountain Club Outdoor Expo is a great chance to check out a side range of outdoor activities. Help staff the RAS table, to tell others about us, and learn about the many other kindred organizations. For more information, contact your Section.

Wed 18 RAS BOARD MEETING

7:00 PM Brighton Town Hall, 2300 Elmwood Ave., Stage Conference Room. All are welcomed.

Sat. 21 LIFE SCIENCE FIELD TRIP

1:00PM to Odondata Sanctuary 20 Parrish Road, Mendon, NY. We will join the Center for Sustainable Living Summer Solstice Celebration. In the afternoon their will be hikes, a potluck dinner and then a solstice ritual with music and dance and bonfire. You must contact Karen Wolf at 670-9709 by June 12 for reservations.

Sat 21 FOSSIL FIELD TRIP

To be announced. If you wish to attend or want more information, please contact Terry Carter at <tcarter1@rochester.rr.com> or John Handley at 585 802 8567, or <jhandley@rochester.rr.com>

Sat 28 ASTRONOMY HAM RADIO FIELD DAY

12:00 Noon at the Wolk Observatory in Ionia, NY. For information, contact Carol Latta at 230-9548, or <cosmos@rochester.rr.com>

Sat 28 MINERAL FIELD TRIP

Rochester Lapidary Society field trip. Meet at 8:00 AM at Exit 42 on I-90. There will be several stops to collect pyritized nodules/fossils and selenite. Well-supervised children are allowed. Safety glasses and sturdy footwear are required and hard hat or bicycle helmet may be, too. A weather decision will be made the day before; call Al Mura at 227-9931 for updates.

EVENTS IN JULY

Sat 05 ASTRONOMY STAR PARTY

10:00 to 11:00 PM at Mendon Ponds Park, Hopkins Point Road near the scout camping area. Join us for views of Saturn and deep sky objects in members' telescopes. Come early, before completely dark, to best appreciate the lineup of the planets. Stay a while for best telescopic views. Dress very warm as evenings may be very chilly! For information, contact Jim Seidewand at 723-6225.

Sat. 12 LIFE SCIENCE FIELD TRIP

4:30 pm Burroughs Audubon Nature Club, Sketch, Savor, and Sing. Hikes, sketch plants and flowers with the aid of artist, Clauding Bartlett. Potluck dinner around 6:00 (bring dish to pass and tableware) and then join a song-fest with Julie Clayton and her guitar. You must contact Karen Wolf, 670-9709.

Tue 15 RAS BULLETIN

Articles and event notices due for the August/September, 2008 newsletter.

Sat 19 FOSSIL FIELD TRIP

To Kashong Glen near Geneva, NY. If you wish to attend or want more information, please contact Terry Carter at <tcarter1@rochester.rr.com> or John Handley at 585 802 8567, or <jhandley@rochester.rr.com>

Sat 19 MINERAL FIELD TRIP

To Barton Garnet Mine, North River, NY. 11:00AM – 'til ?. Garnet, gneiss, feldspar, hornblende. Gift shop. Children's sluice. We'll get group rate - not sure what that will be yet (new management). We'll get into public Pit #1 where no tools allowed & pending safety inspection after the snow melts, Pit #8/9 where tools are allowed. All material removed was \$1/pound last year. We'll stop at the closed Hooper Mine at the end of the day. For more information, call Al Mura at 227-9931 or the RAS web site for updates.

Fri-Sun 25-27 ASTRONOMY ROCHESTAR FEST

At the Wolk Observatory in Ionia, NY. Starting times vary. Our own local astronomy weekend with two nights of observing, Saturday picnic-style dinner and main speaker, silent auction, kids activities, etc. A charge applies for this event and pre-registration is suggested so we can plan for food requirements. See the "RocheStar Fest" link near the top of the Section web page for full info and a registration form. For information, contact Carol Latta at 230-9548, or <cosmos@rochester.rr.com>

Sat 26 MINERAL FIELD TRIP

Tentative. LaFarge Lockport Quarry, Lockport, NY. Since they're blasting in pit where

crystals can be found, we will not have access before this. Time will probably be 7:00 AM to 11:30 AM Similar to Penfield Quarry except that power tools are not allowed. For more information, call Al Mura at 227-9931 or the RAS web site for updates.

ONGOING EVENTS

LIFE SCIENCE HERBARIUM WORKSHOPS

Workshops will be scheduled based on availability of those participating. If you are interested in helping with the Herbarium during June, July or August, please contact Elizabeth Pixley, herbarium curator (334-0977 or <epixley@rochester.rr.com>. No experience is necessary, just an interest in knowing more about the collection.

Sat ASTRONOMY PUBLIC OBSERVING

8:45:PM to 10:15:PM at the Strassenburgh Planetarium. Astronomy Section members will run the roof-top telescope every clear Saturday evening through the Summer. Contact the Planetarium Box Office at 697-1945 or 271-4552 x411 to see if the telescope is open. If you'd like to help, see the sign-up page on the AS web site.