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Rochester Academy of Science
BULLETIN

"An organization of people in the Natural Sciences"



June, 2009 - Vol. 63, #6

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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>

ROCHESTER ACADEMY OF SCIENCE OFFICERS

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Open	Secretary			
William Hallahan	Treasurer	624-1628	389-2552	
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Jeff Gutterman	Director '10	392-8299	359-6054	

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books were featured to match the display topics. Information about our history, activities, and how to join RAS was readily available in trifold handouts and membership forms.

An opening reception was held for RAS members and hosted by Jeff Levine of the History and Science Division who had this to say:

"Let me again thank you and the Rochester Academy of Science for making this month's display such an eye popping success. We have had a continuous flow of people looking at the rocks, minerals,

RAS DISPLAY AT CENTRAL LIBRARY

During the month of May, activities of the Academy were featured through displays in the History and Science Division of the Monroe County Central Library. The professional-looking exhibits set up by the Fossil, Mineral, Astronomy, and Life Sciences Sections were sure to pique the interest of the library patrons. We showed rock collecting activities across New York State, astrophotography from Ionia, and plants collected from sites in Rochester that are no longer "wild." In an adjoining open case, selected library



fossils, plant and astronomy information over the last month and I know the display has generated a huge amount of interest in these disciplines as the amount of books being checked out of the library on these subjects has tripled and this is a slow time of year for science books being borrowed as students are finishing their classes. I do hope some of our patrons will become interested in your organization."

We are gratified by the interest shown by library patrons and pleased Mr. Levine's invitation to exhibit gave us the opportunity to extend our outreach into the city.

Jutta S. Dudley
Director, RAS

* * *

2009-2010 RAS BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

Seventy-six ballots were received. Those elected received between 72 and 76 votes.

- Stan Spector was reelected as President; Chuck Hiler was reelected as Vice President.
- Steve Busschaert has retired as Membership Chair; Harry deLahunta was elected to the position.
- Bill Hallahan was reelected as Treasurer.
- The Secretary's position is open; Frank Bov got 2 write-in votes.
- Frank Bov was reelected as Director, and Demaris Verzulli was elected to the position being vacated by Dan Krisher.

We thanked Steve Busschaert for his service as Membership Chair, and Dan Krisher for his service as Director.

TO PICNIC OR NOT TO PICNIC

In years gone by, the Academy has had an annual picnic for members and their families out at the Astronomy Section's Ionia observatory. The picnic would include views of the Sun through one of the 3 (and soon to be 5) telescopes there and possibly early evening viewing of the stars and planets. We could take walks through the trails in the woods marked by our Life Sciences group and probably look over members collections of fossils and minerals from western New York. We stopped hosting the picnic since few people showed up. If you would join us for such a picnic in September timeframe, encourage your Section President to report your interest at the RAS board meetings.

Stan Spector
President, RAS

* * *

HELP WANTED

The RAS is in need of a volunteer Website content coordinator. This volunteer would decide what should be published on the site, collect the information from the relevant parties and submit it to the Webmaster for publication. This information includes the Section calendar events and Academy announcements. Other ideas for content are articles from Section newsletters, articles submitted by RAS members, RAS photographs (e.g., depicting section activities or a photograph of the month taken of a scientific subject by an RAS member) or any other content the coordinator feels will help increase visits and usefulness of the Website.

EVENTS for JUNE/JULY 2009

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

JUNE EVENTS

Tue 02 FOSSIL MEETING

7:30 PM Annual Picnic and Elections. Venue TBD. Please email Anne-Roth Blizzard or call John Handley at 585-802-8567 for more information.

Fri 05 ASTRONOMY GENERAL MEETING

7:00 to 10:00 PM at the Wolk Observatory/Farrash Center for Observational Astronomy in Ionia, NY. Main speaker will be our own Dave Bishop with his annual *Review of the Year in Pictures*. This popular yearly talk is an informal tour of images that made the news in astronomy this year with commentary from Dave. This is a good meeting to attend if you're a newcomer to astronomy or just trying to catch up on events. Come early, starting at 7:00 for conversation and snacks. Stay late if skies are clear for a peek through the clubs telescopes. Our meetings are always free and open to the public. Why not stop in and listen? For information, contact Carol Latta at 230-9548, or <cosmos@rochester.rr.com>

Wed 10, LIFE SCIENCES FIELD TRIP

10:00 AM We will attend the Burroughs Audubon Nature Club Open House, for walks, sitting and reading from their vast Nature Library and lunch at noon on the porch or on a trail. Please contact Karen Wolf at 670-9709 if you will attend so she can let

them know about how many to expect.

Sat 13 ACADEMY ADK OUTDOOR EXPO

9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at Mendon Ponds Park. Several RAS Sections will be participating in this event, but there will be plenty of time to take in other displays. If you would like to participate, contact your Section leadership. For information about the event, go to <<http://gvc-adk.org/expo>>

Wed 17 RAS BOARD MEETING

7:00 PM Brighton Town Hall, 2300 Elmwood Ave. Check the Town Hall agenda when you enter for the meeting room. Everyone welcomed.

Thur 18 LIFE SCIENCES VIDEO PRESENTATION

7:00 PM, First Unitarian Church, 220 S. Winton Rd, Gilbert Hall (2nd floor) "Sustainable Table" This 50-minute video, co-sponsored by the Rochester Regional Group of the Sierra Club and the Rochester Area Vegetarian Society, says our food choices can radically help or hurt the earth. This program is part of a film series called "Creating the Future," organized by a local ad hoc group. For more information contact Elizabeth Pixley at <epixley@rochester.rr.com> or by phone at 334-0977.

Fri 26 ASTRONOMY STAR PARTY

10:00 PM at Mendon Ponds Park, near the scout camping area on Hopkins Point Road. Our third star party of the year spotlights a crescent Moon and deep sky objects. Star parties are an open invitation to look through telescopes provided by astronomy club members. Depending on conditions, we'll see a variety of objects including star clusters, gaseous nebulae, and other galaxies. Be sure to dress for cool weather as nights often are cold and grass can be wet with dew, so wear waterproof shoes just in case. We'll cancel if not at least partially clear. Call us at 723-6225 starting a half hour before the start time if you're in doubt.

Sat 20 FOSSIL FIELD TRIP

To Deep Run, type locality of the Deep Run shale, east of Canandaigua Lake. Details forthcoming. Please contact Terry Carter at 585-467-0135 or email <tcarter1@rochester.rr.com> if you wish to attend or want more information.

JULY EVENTS

Wed 15 RAS BULLETIN

Deadline for event notices and articles for the June/July issue.

Fri-Sat 17-18 ASTRONOMY ROCHESTAR FEST

8:00 PM on Friday, Noon on Saturday at the Wolk

Observatory/Farrash Center for Observational Astronomy in Ionia, NY. Stay tuned for a registration form and full details coming soon. Friday night observing and short talk. Saturday afternoon talks, activities, kids events, silent auction. Saturday dinner. Saturday after-dinner main speaker. For information, contact Carol Latta at 230-9548, or <cosmos@rochester.rr.com>

Sat 18 FOSSIL FIELD TRIP

To Eighteen Mile Creek, Smoke Creek, Buffalo Creek, all near Buffalo. Details will be forthcoming. Please contact Terry Carter at 585-467-0135 or email <tcarter1@rochester.rr.com> if you wish to attend or want more information.

Sat 18 LIFE SCIENCES WORKSHOP

10:00 AM to 1:00 PM Teaching workshop on herbarium techniques. Participants will learn proper methods for pressing and mounting plant specimens, also techniques for repairing damaged specimens. Those who attended our first one in April had a great time and asked for a repeat event! The workshop will be held at the RAS Herbarium, located in the basement of the Rochester Museum and Science Center, East Avenue. If you plan to attend, contact Elizabeth Pixley at <epixley@rochester.rr.com> or by phone at 334-0977. Space is limited.