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Rochester Academy of Science  
**BULLETIN**

“An organization of people in the Natural Sciences”

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April, 2011 - Vol. 65, #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 Jutta Dudley, 140 Railroad Mills Road, Pittsford, NY 14534; by telephone 385-2368; or by e-mail <JuttaSD@aol.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 Bob Crumrine, 3 Timway Court, Fairport, NY 14450 Phone (585) 265-5292 (days) and (585) 425-7448 (evenings), e-mail <editor@rasny.org>

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

**2011 RAS SPRING LECTURE**

The Annual RAS Spring Lecture will be held Monday, April 18 at 7:00 PM at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), building 9, room 2580, the ‘Xerox Auditorium’.

**From the Euphrates to the Adriatic: Investigating the Origins and Spread of Farming**



**Andrew M.T. Moore, Dean of Graduate Studies, Rochester Institute of Technology**

The development of farming in Western Asia and its subsequent spread to new lands was one of the most significant events in the entire history of humankind because it made possible the modern world. The lecture reviews the results of excavations Moore has conducted that illuminate the origins of farming in Western Asia and the spread of

this new way of life to southern Europe. He begins at Abu Hureyra, a village on the Euphrates River in Syria, where excavations in the 1970s documented the early development of farming. Indeed, Abu Hureyra is currently the oldest known farming settlement in the world. Moore outlines the results of the excavations and then explains how new research in the last decade on materials recovered from the site, using state of the art methods, is expanding our understanding of the inception of farming and its environmental context. Moore then describes his current research in the “Early Farming in Dalmatia” project. Through excavation of two Neolithic village sites, Danilo and Pokrovnik, on the Dalmatian coast, Moore and his colleagues are documenting the spread of farming from Western Asia to the Central Mediterranean and the Adriatic. The project is exploring the context in which farming developed through vegetation and geomorphological studies, and an agricultural survey of traditional farming methods. Thus, the project is unusually comprehensive, embracing many different approaches in order to understand better this crucial development in human history.

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**ROCHESTER MINERALOGICAL SYMPOSIUM**

April 14-17, 2011, Radisson Rochester Airport Hotel, 175 Jefferson Road, Rochester, NY 14623. See the Events section on page 3 for more information.

\* \* \*

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2010-2011 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH GRANT AWARDS**

To: Andrea Rocchio at Hobart & William Smith Colleges for Assessment of historic (~1940-2010 C.E.) nutrient sources and paleoproductivity in Honoe Lake, NY. Sponsor: Dr. Tara Curtin, Geoscience Department. Amount: \$100

To: Kathryn Drzewiecki at the University of Buffalo for Effects of Pharmaceutical Contaminants on Plant Development. Sponsor: Dr. James O. Berry, Department of Biological Sciences. Amount: \$100.

To: Robert E. Cornish at SUNY Brockport for Growth and survival of juvenile *Villosa iris* (rainbow mussel) in a flow through aquaculture system. Sponsor: Dr. Jacques Rinchar, Department of Environmental Science & Biology. Amount:

\$75.00.

To: Eric Bauer at SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry for Changes in Parasite Community and Diversity as a Result of Introduced Fish Species. Sponsor: Dr. Christopher Whipps, Environmental Science and Forestry. Amount: \$100.

To: Paolo Grenga at Niagara University for Development of a novel cubane-based polymeric system for the study of ion diffusion. Sponsor: Ronny Priefer, Department of Chemistry. Amount: \$100.

To: Adam Longwich at Ithaca College for Phylogenetic reconstruction of the Gurania species in the Cucurbitaceae family. Sponsor: Dr. Susan Swensen, Department of Biology. Amount: \$444 plus \$50 to the student for a superior proposal.

To: Kelly A. Jaenecke at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry for Restoration of a federally threatened fern through production of genetically diverse individuals by means of DNA marker assisted in vitro fertilization. Sponsor: Dr. Danilo D. Fernando, Department of Environmental Science and Forestry. Amount: \$500 plus \$50 to the student for a superior proposal.

Twelve proposals were received. The committee agreed that most of the proposal were very good and worthy of support but with limited funds could only give full awards to two proposals.

\* \* \*

**ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

At the next general meeting, April 18, the RAS will elect a new slate of officers for a 1 year term and two of six directors for a 3-year term. As in past years, the Nominating Committee has been unable to find candidates for all positions. Interested parties can contact any Board member. Please see the March Bulletin for biographies of non-incumbent candidates. A sample ballot can be found below.

\* \* \*

**JOHN HANDLEY  
NOMINATED FOR  
ACADEMY FELLOW**

John Handley was nominated for Fellow of the Academy, and after a unanimous vote at the March 16th RAS Board meeting, he will be made a Fellow at the Spring Lecture on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

**ROCHESTER ACADEMY OF SCIENCE**

**BALLOT FOR JUNE 2011 – MAY 2012 OFFICERS**

Please vote for each office. Note there are THREE Directors’ slots to fill.

OFFICE	NAME	√	WRITE-IN CANDIDATE
President:	<b>Jutta Dudley</b>		
Vice President:	<b>Open</b>		
Membership:	<b>Open</b>		
Treasurer:	<b>William Hallahan</b>		
Secretary:	<b>Eric Drum</b>		
Member, Board of Directors, 1-year term	<b>Helen Haller</b>		
Member, Board of Directors, 3-year term	<b>Douglas Kostyk</b>		
	<b>Lee Tutt</b>		

Completed ballots can be mailed to the RAS post office box, or delivered in person at RAS before April 18<sup>th</sup>

*EVENTS for April, 2011*

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

**APRIL EVENTS**

**Fri 01 ASTRONOMY  
GENERAL MEETING**

7:30 PM, RIT Gosnell Hall A-300 Lecture Hall. UR Professor Dan Watson will present a talk on protostars. For more information contact Lori Englund at 334-5744 or visit [www.rochesterastronomy.org](http://www.rochesterastronomy.org).

**Tues 05 FOSSIL GENERAL  
MEETING**

7:30 PM Brighton Town Hall. Dr. David Kendrick Professor of Geoscience at Hobart & William Smith Colleges will speak about his exciting research into the wonderful world of Crinoids, one of those illusive fossils that we find pieces of the stems in the area but rarely find the business end of the fossil. Bring your crinoid samples to the meeting for all to see. For further information contact Stan Spector (585) 461-1272.

**Fri 08 ASTRONOMY STAR  
PARTY**

9:00-11:00 PM at Northampton Park at the Ski Lodge on Hubbell Road. No need to bring equipment or a deep understanding; just come and enjoy the views. Dress very warm as evenings may be very chilly! For information, contact Jim Seidewand at 723-6225.

**Sun 10 RAS BULLETIN  
DEADLINE**

Deadline for May, 2011 issue. Please e-mail input to

[editor@rasny.org](mailto:editor@rasny.org)

**Thurs 14 ANTHROPOLOGY  
MEETING**

7:30 PM Memorial Art Gallery, 500 University Ave. We will join the Archaeological Institute of America for their talk entitled “Tutankhamen: The Life and Death of a God King.” See more information about this lecture in the Non-RAS Events. Contact Karen Wolf, 670-9709 for more information.

**Thurs 14 ROCHESTER  
MINERALOGICAL  
SYMPOSIUM**

**Free Evening for all RAS members.** Radisson Hotel Rochester Airport, 175 Jefferson Rd., Rochester, NY 14623. Enjoy the fantastic mineral collections in the Display Room, go to the 8:00 - 9:15 PM lecture by Dr. Renato Pagano "The Gualteroni Collection: A Time Capsule From a Century Ago," and visit the wonderful dealers on the fourth floor afterward.

**Fri 15 - Sun 17 38th  
ROCHESTER  
MINERALOGICAL  
SYMPOSIUM**

This internationally renowned event and winner of the 2010 Carnegie Award has much to offer for both the amateur and the professional. For more information and list of presenters, go to: <http://www.rasny.org/MinSymposium/MineralSymp.htm>;

*This year only, Mineral Section will pay the \$30/day fee for one adult in a family membership to attend on Saturday or Sunday so that they can bring their children or grandchildren to this event.* For more on this, email Paul Dudley at [mineral@rasny.org](mailto:mineral@rasny.org)

**Sat 16 HERBARIUM**

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Life Sciences Section will hold a workshop at the RAS Herbarium, located in the basement of the Rochester Museum and Science Center (RMSC). No experience needed! Plan to come and help with this valuable collection! Lunch is served in the RMSC Cafe until 2 pm. At RMSC, go to the front desk and ask staff person there to call ext. 368, the phone in the Herbarium. If you plan to attend, please send an RSVP to Elizabeth Pixley, herbarium curator, 334-0977 or [epixley@rochester.rr.com](mailto:epixley@rochester.rr.com).

**Wed 27 RAS BOARD  
MEETING**

7:00 PM Brighton Town Hall, Stage Conference Meeting Room.

**APRIL NON-RAS EVENTS**

**Thurs 14  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
INSTITUTE OF AMERICA  
LECTURE**

7:30 PM Memorial Art Gallery, 500 University Ave. Dr. Danny Bell, Brown University. “Tutankhamen: The Life and Death of a God King.” For more information visit [www.archaeological.org](http://www.archaeological.org).