



## President's Message

It's been a busy year for the Academy and we can be proud of our accomplishments. I am particularly pleased and amazed by the extraordinary amount of enthusiasm we show in our public education efforts. Star parties in the parks, telescopic observations at the Strasenburgh Planetarium, and Scout campouts at Ionia are great examples of the Astronomy Section's programs that enrich science education in the community. Equally impressive are the public programs of the Mineral Section. For example, their two-day show (with the Rochester Lapidary Society) at the county fairgrounds draws hundreds of people. Educational display cases, demonstrations, and hands on activities are an essential part of the event and the enthusiastic response from children and their parents make all the effort worthwhile.

All of the sections have reached out to the public and found ways to teach students and their families about the natural sciences. Our annual participation in the exhibit area at the CWS-STANYS Science Exploration Days at St John Fisher College is one fine example of that. Think about other successful outreach programs your section has conducted and give your self a pat on the back!

The Academy's public events, the Spring Lecture and the Fall Paper Session are other avenues we use to bring interesting topics into the public forum. Imagine the humdrum existence in Rochester without the Academy's activities!

~Jutta Siefert Dudley

### RAS Election Coming Up

Each year the Academy elects new officers and directors to the Board of Directors to oversee the operations of the Academy. We are looking for members who will participate in the monthly Board meetings and help guide Section and Academy activities.

Director positions extend over a three year term and require monthly meeting attendance and attention to email discussions between the meetings.

The officers of the Academy serve for a one-year term. The Nominations Committee is currently looking for a Membership Chairman and Vice President. The Membership

Chair develops strategies for finding and keeping involved members. The Vice President supports the President and is responsible for making arrangements for our twice-annual public events, the Fall Paper Session and the Spring Lecture. The Secretary is responsible for writing the minutes and distributing them to the Board. The Vice President and President have very active jobs requiring commitments of time and energy. Members who have had experience serving on the board usually fill these positions.

If you are interested in one of the positions contact Jeff Gutterman (see contact information below) and the committee will consider

your request. The final ballot must be ready by mid-January, so we must know your interest before the end of December. You may submit a petition signed by other members to get your name on the ballot for positions the Committee has already selected candidates for. This is due in mid-January.

Jeff Gutterman  
Nominating Committee Chair  
gutterman@gol.com  
585-392-8299

# 2012

# Rochester Academy of Science, Inc.

<http://www.rasny.org>

## Membership Form

Mail to:

R.A.S. c/o

William L. Hallahan

6658 North Avon Rd.

Honeoye Falls, NY 14472

[ ] New

[ ] Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

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 R.A.S. category and for the section(s) in which you wish membership.**

## Membership Categories

*R.A.S. dues are a prerequisite for section membership*

**Member** (Individual over age 18)

**Family** (Including students to age 18)

**Student** (K to full-time undergrad.)

**Supporting** (Individual or family)

**Patron** (Individual or family)

**Life** (Individual only)

**Gift (Thank you)** Fill in amount ⇨

Check box you are interested in serving on a section committee ⇨ ⇨

Rochester  
Academy  
of Science

Anthropology  
Section

Astronomy  
Section

Life  
Sciences  
Section

Fossil  
Section

Mineral  
Section

**Total**

**\$10.00**

\$2.00

\$17.00

\$2.00

\$5.00

\$5.00

**\$15.00**

\$3.00

\$22.00

\$3.00

\$6.00

\$6.00

\$5.00

\$1.00

\$5.00

\$1.00

\$2.00

\$2.00

\$20.00

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\$30.00

\$10.00

\$10.00

\$10.00

\$30.00

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\$50.00

\$20.00

\$20.00

\$20.00

\$200.00

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\$300.00

\$40.00

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## 2011 Fall Paper Session

Monroe Community College hosted the annual RAS Fall Paper session on Saturday, October 29th. Dan Robertson, chairman of the Chemistry and Geosciences Department, was ably assisted by a group of faculty, staff, and students from the departments of Chemistry and Geosciences, Biology, Engineering Science and Physics, Campus Events, and Sodexo Food Service. In addition to Professor Robertson, the Academy acknowledges the help of the following people at Monroe Community College: Sherman Henzel, John Cottrell, Amanda Colosimo, Kara Tierney, Jessica Barone, Mary DiSano, Margaret Kaminsky, Mary Kay Oldfield,

Judy Miller, Chris Wendtland, Art Wahba, Jennifer Hill, Maryann Marino, Bert Gamory, Courtney Belluccio, and Matt Farley.

We set a recent record attendance this year with approximately 275 people! The concurrent oral sessions, of which there were 34, were overflowing with people eager to hear talks on ecology, paleontology, archeology, chemistry, meteorology, and astronomy. A separately scheduled poster session allowed attendees to move about and speak at leisure with the 93 presenters.

A luncheon and the annual Larry King Memorial Lecture followed the morning of posters and talks. Dr. Beata Csatho of the

Department of Geology, University at Buffalo, presented *Disappearing Ice! Mass Loss and Dynamics of the Greenland Ice Sheet*. She described the changes taking place in the Greenland Ice sheet based on her research that encompasses data collected on the ground and with satellite technology.

~Jutta Siefert Dudley

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## Bulletin Submission Deadline Change

In an effort to facilitate a more timely delivery of the Bulletin each month we moved the submission deadline (again) to the first week of each month. For the January issue, please send your submissions to Ben Carlino at [editor@rasny.org](mailto:editor@rasny.org) by December 7th.

# EVENTS for December, 2011

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

## DECEMBER EVENTS

### **Friday 2 ASTRONOMY HOLIDAY PARTY**

7:00 PM at Strassenburgh Planetarium. Bring a dish to pass—the party starts with a food fest and social time in the lobby. The program and activities in the Star Theatre start at 8 PM, including the member image show.

### **Saturday 3 ANNUAL HOLIDAY MINERAL DINNER MEETING**

6:30 PM at St. Louis Church, 64 South Main St, Pittsford 14534. Setup begins at 6:00 (*Please note, if you arrive before 6:00, please temporarily park on street to allow parking lot to clear—per request from the church*). Renowned collector and dealer William Pinch will give a presentation on the RRUFF Project and another topic to be announced. Please bring a dish to add to the buffet dinner – anything from a casserole, to a salad, or a dessert is acceptable. If you would like to bring soda or water, please notify Stephen Busschaert at [sbusschaert@msn.com](mailto:sbusschaert@msn.com) or 288-5683 so he can coordinate to make sure we have enough drinks this year. Meat and place settings will be provided, and there will be door prizes. The Participation Incentive Program (PIP) prize will be awarded to the member who earned the most points for participating in club activities in 2011.

### **Tuesday 6 FOSSIL MEETING**

7:30 PM Downstairs Meeting Room, Brighton Town Hall. 2300 Elmwood Ave. This will be our annual Show and Tell and Pizza Party. Bring your favorite fossil(s) that you collected over the summer and/or any that you would like help in identifying. Refreshments. Visitors welcome. Please contact Dan Krisher at 585-293-9033 for more information.

### **Wednesday 7 HERBARIUM WORKSHOP**

1PM to 4PM, located in the basement of the Rochester Museum and Science Center (RMSC). No experience needed! Plan to come and help with this valuable collection – and learn about plants in the process. If you plan to attend, please send an RSVP to Elizabeth Pixley. Then, at RMSC, go to the front desk and ask staff person there to call ext. 368, the phone in the Herbarium. For more information, contact Elizabeth Pixley, herbarium curator (334-0977 or [epixley@rochester.rr.com](mailto:epixley@rochester.rr.com))

### **Thursday 22 DECEMBER SOLSTICE**

UTC 05:30 December 22

12:30 a.m. EST



### **ADVISORY FOR LIFE SCIENCES SECTION**

There will be no meeting other than Herbarium workshop in December. Meetings will resume in January with an open house, dish-to-pass dinner. Please think about ideas for meeting topics and Field Trips you would like to have in 2012. Discussions will take place at this Open House, date to be announced in the January Bulletin/Web site.

**Note: There is no RAS Board of Directors meeting this month.**

**Note: There will be no MINERAL SECTION monthly meeting this month.**

**Rochester Academy of Science**  
**P.O. Box 92642**  
**Rochester, NY 14692-0642**

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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. 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>.

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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 Benjamin Carlino, 23 Monroe Street, Fairport, NY 14450 Phone (585) 944-7748 (days) <editor@rasny.org>

#### **ROCHESTER ACADEMY OF SCIENCE OFFICERS**

		<b>Phone</b>	
		(585) home	work
Jutta Dudley	President	385-2368	
Open	Vice President		
Eric Drum	Secretary	216-9313	
William Hallahan	Treasurer	624-1628	389-2552
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Nancy McCann	Mineral	395-1713	
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Douglas Kostyk	Director '14	943-3419	
Lee Tutt	Director '14	872-3033	
Helen D. Haller	Director '12	387-9570	

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