



## President's Message

June 1st marks the beginning of another term for the Board of Directors. I look forward to serving for another year as President and working with the Board and other members as we oversee the affairs of the Academy. On your behalf, we gather ten times yearly to plan events, discuss Academy concerns, and hear summary reports from the section representatives, webmaster and Bulletin editor. Colleagues, thank you for volunteering your time and sharing your expertise!

It's been a long, cold winter and we're ready for outdoor activities. Let's dig rocks, observe stars, animals and plants, attend the RocheStar Fest, and share our interests with the public at outreach events! Your participation will be even more satisfying if you volunteer to help and make these activities possible. In a seemingly short time we'll be wondering where the summer went. So, enjoy!

Looking ahead into autumn, the RAS BOD is planning the Fall Paper Session to be held at the Finger Lakes Community College on November 7. The first call for presentations has gone out to academia and now we invite you to contribute a poster or oral

presentation. We'd like to hear about your projects, discoveries, and citizen science activities. The next article describes the information you need to know.

See you in the field!

*Jutta Siefert Dudley*

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## **42nd Annual Fall Scientific Paper Session First Call for Abstracts To: Members of the Academy and Science Community**

The forty-second Annual Fall Scientific Paper Session of the Rochester Academy of Science will be hosted by Finger Lakes Community College on **Saturday, November 7, 2015**, from 8:30 AM to 2 PM.

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. Undergraduate students, graduate students, and faculty members are encouraged to attend and to present posters or oral reports. You do not have to be a member of the Rochester Academy of Sciences to participate.

The Academy covers the full scope of basic and applied sciences, including but not limited to anthropology, biology, botany, chemistry, computer science, ecology, environmental science, geography, geology, physics, physiology, science education, and zoology.

Presentations may be oral reports or posters. Oral reports are limited to 12 minutes in length. There will be 3 minutes for questions from the audience at the end of your presentation. Posters provide an excellent opportunity for author-audience interaction and students should consider this mode of presentation, particularly if this will be their first scientific meeting.

**An abstract of your presentation must be received by Friday, October 16, 2015.**

**We cannot guarantee that late submissions will be included.**

Directions for abstract preparation and mailing are included on the attached registration information (omitted in this Bulletin).

Abstract books will be available digitally and distributed at the Paper Session by request only. Registration will be held at the college's main entrance by the new Student Services Building at

8:30 AM. Oral presentations and poster sessions will begin at 9:30 AM. The luncheon is at 12:30 PM and will be followed by the Larry King Memorial Lecture. Refreshments will be provided throughout the morning. A map of the Finger Lakes Community College campus and luncheon information will be included in the second call, which will be distributed at the end of August.

\* \* \*

### **RAS at Science Exploration Days**

The Academy plays an important part in Science Exploration Days, a program organized by the Central Western Section of STANYS which has for the past 44 years to provided science enrichment for students and the community. On May 13 and 14, Academy members helped in this mission by sharing their expertise and passion for science by presenting seminars and interacting with visitors in the exhibit hall.

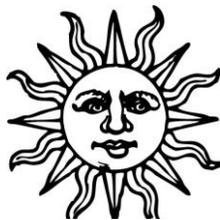
Carol Latta, Lee Tutt, and Jutta Dudley spent class time with students in grades 7 through 12. Carol brought to light old and new questions about the universe (Mysteries in Astronomy: Answering the Big Questions) while Lee described the journey of a pebble from mine to stonecutter's workshop (The Gemstone Journey), and Jutta explained how the story of Ice Age proboscideans is uncovered (Mastodonts in the Muck).

In the exhibit hall, our hands on and informative topic displays covering astronomy, minerals,

fossils, botany, and anthropology taught and enlightened visitors of all ages. The RAS Section tables were hives of activity during the evening public event and the school program the next day.

Students looked through a telescope and learned about cool things about the universe from Astronomy members Carol Latta, David Bishop and Frank Bov. The edible wild plants at the Life Sciences booth impressed those who never thought they'd be eating "weeds," which were gathered and shared by wild salad makers Karen Wolf, Larry Hirsch, Liz Pixley, Cindy Coupal, Sue Homsey, Angela Masters and Kathy Lu. Next door, bright fluorescent minerals awed viewers peering into a black box operated by Jerry Colyer while young collectors were challenged to identify their selected free sample by Mineral members Stephen Busshcaert, Carol Wonder, and Jutta Dudley. Visitors also saw, with Paul Dudley's help, that many familiar things are made from minerals. At the Fossil table, Dan Krisher and George Wonder showed off extinct critters from the Earth's past that captivated the attention of many.

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*Happy Summer Solstice!  
June 21*

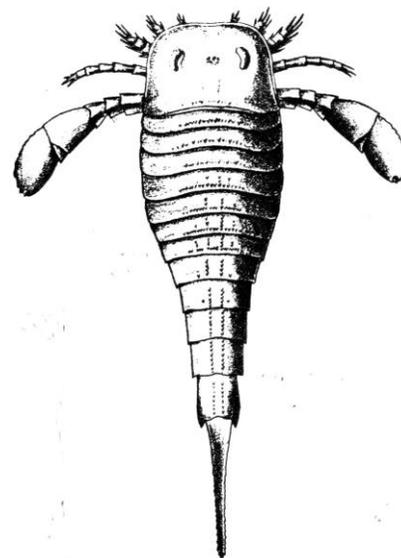
*We are repeating this column from the May Bulletin, so you can see the diagram that did not get printed.*

### **Did You Know...**

...that in 1984, *Eurypterus remipes* became the NYS fossil?

...that the first *Eurypterus* specimen was found in Oneida County in 1818 and later identified as an arthropod in 1825?

... that the Silurian Period strata in NYS is where you can find eurypterid fossils?



# Events for June-July, 2015

For updates to events, check the Academy website, <http://www.rasny.org>, and Section websites.

## **Fri June 5 ASTRONOMY SECTION MEETING**

7:30 p.m.–10:00 p.m. Farash Center, Ionia NY. ASRAS General Members Meeting. RIT Professor Ian Ruchlin will speak about “100 years of *General Relativity*”. Short talk will be on the VLT by Ted Lechman. For more information, contact Valerie Rapson at (585) 301-3424.

## **Sat June 9 FOSSIL SECTION**

The Fossil picnic and elections will be held at Karen Wolf's house on 6/9 starting at 6:30 PM. The Section will provide hots and hamburgers, rolls and soda. Please bring a dish to pass. If attending please email Dan Krisher at [DLKFossil@gmail.com](mailto:DLKFossil@gmail.com) so we know how much food is needed. Directions will be emailed to attendees.

## **Thurs June 11 ANTHOPOLOGY SECTION MEETING**

7:30 p.m. Memorial Art Gallery Anthropology Section Meeting. We will join the AIA (Archaeological Institute of America-Rochester Section) for a lecture by Dr. Patrick Hunt of Stanford University on "Otzi the Iceman." He will talk about his studies of the 5,300 year old Copper Age/Neolithic man who was discovered preserved in 1991 in the Similaun Pass of the Otzal Alps at 10,500 ft. between Italy and Austria. Members attending will be reimbursed for their \$5 admission into the Gallery by Karen Wolf (at the reception table after the Lecture). For more information call Karen Wolf 670-9709.

## **Sat June 13 FOSSIL SECTION**

We'll be collecting Middle Devonian fossils, Little Beards Creek site near Leicester. Email Dan Krisher for details.

## **Sat June 13 LIFE SCIENCES**

10 a.m. Kent Arboretum (formerly Webster Arboretum) at 1700 Schlegel Road in Webster. We will be looking at the many species of trees from around the world as well viewing the many beautiful flower gardens that have been planted there. Contact Larry Hirsch for details, 429-6199.

## **Wed June 17 RAS BOARD MEETING**

Ionia. Farash Center/Wolk Observatory. Time to be arranged.

## **Sat. June 20 HERBARIUM WORKSHOP**

10 am – 2 pm Life Sciences section will hold a workshop at the RAS Herbarium, located in the basement of the RMSC. We will be repairing and remounting plant specimens. No experience needed! The Museum café is open until 2 pm, if you wish to buy lunch. Space is limited - please send an RSVP to Elizabeth Pixley. At RMSC front desk ask staff person to call ext. 368, phone in the Herbarium.

For more information, contact Elizabeth Pixley, herbarium curator (334-0977 or [epixley@rochester.rr.com](mailto:epixley@rochester.rr.com)).

## **Fri June 19 ASTRONOMY STAR PARTY**

10:00 – 11:00 p.m. Northampton Park. For more information, contact Jim Seidewand at (585) 703-9876.

## **Wed June 24 LIFE SCIENCES**

4-8 PM We are invited to the Burroughs Audubon Nature Club Sanctuary. This is a Home Nature Projects and Open House for all ages including children sponsored by BANC. Karen Wolf will be demonstrating/discussing the edible wild Plants around homes,

gardens and fields in Rochester. Refreshments provided; bring a picnic supper if you wish. For more information and directions call Karen Wolf at 670-9709.

## **Sat June 27 FOSSIL SECTION**

Schoharie, Rickard Hill site, collecting Lower Devonian fossils. Email Dan Krisher for details.

## **July Calendar Items:**

*The RAS BOD will not meet in July.*

## **Fri 10 July LIFE SCIENCES**

6PM We are invited to join BANC at their Burroughs Audubon Nature Club Sanctuary for a Potluck Dinner and program by James Beach, (SUNY Brockport): “*What's Happening at Braddock Bay*”. The program includes his studies of water level regulation and Wetlands Ecology. Bring a dish to pass and place setting. Call Karen Wolf for more information and directions. 670-9709.

## **Fri 17-Sun 19 July ASTRONOMY SECTION**

RocheStar Fest 2015 is scheduled for July 17-19 2015 Our keynote speaker will be Rick Albrecht with a talk on “Astronomical Connections.

## **ONGOING EVENT**

ASRAS will operate the telescope, or one on the sidewalk, at Strassenburgh Planetarium on mostly clear Saturday nights. Contact Jim Seidewand at (585) 703-9876.

## **OUTSIDE RAS EVENT**

### **Sat June 13 ADK OUTDOOR EVENT**

Mendon Ponds Park Beach Area. 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

RAS will be represented by Astronomy, Fossil, & Mineral Sections. Volunteers needed at the RAS booth! Questions? Contact Jutta Dudley (385-2368).

**Rochester Academy of Science**  
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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 (585) 385-2368; or by e-mail <pres@rasny.org>. The **Academy** Internet website is <http://www.rasny.org> Or see us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/RochesterAcademyOfScience>

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This “**BULLETIN**” is produced monthly, *except July and September*, by the **Astronomy Section, Rochester Academy of Science**. Submissions are due by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month, and may be emailed to [editor@rasny.org](mailto:editor@rasny.org)

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