Rochester Academy of Science

BULLETIN

"An organization of people in the Natural Sciences"



May, 2014 - Vol. 68, #5

President's Message:

Dr. Vasilii Petrenko's lecture about ice cores and what they reveal about climate change, was very well received by attendees at the Academy Spring Lecture. We gathered in the lobby of the Brighton Town Hall afterwards to chat with the speaker while enjoying refreshments provided by board member Helen Haller. Many of us were quite thrilled (and chilled) to handle 50,000year-old glacial ice Dr. Petrenko brought along in a cooler!

Plans for the Fall Paper Session to be held November 15 at the College at Brockport are underway. Our hosts will be the School of Science and Math with the Department of Earth Sciences taking the lead. Another public lecture will be offered at the event and we welcome recommendations for topics of interest or specific speakers.

The Academy will participate at two upcoming events:
Science Exploration Days in mid-May (more on this in the Bulletin) and the ADK Outdoor Expo on June 14. Do volunteer to help at these events and

spread the joy of learning about the natural world and promote the Rochester Academy of Science!

Jutta Siefert Dudley President RAS

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Slices of ancient glacial ice provided at the Spring Lecture. Many inclusions of tiny air bubbles render this 50,000-year-old chunk of Antarctic ice somewhat opaque.

Science Exploration Days 2014

On Thursday evening of May 15 and on Friday the 16th, the Academy will have an important presence at Science Exploration Days, an annual event at St John Fisher College that is organized by the Central Western Section of the Science Teachers Association of NYS. It is a program that has for over 40 years focused on acquainting young people with research, scientific concepts, applied technology, local natural history, and various topics beyond the standard curriculum.

You are encouraged to participate and ensure that RAS hands-on activities and informative displays in the exhibit hall will teach and enlighten visitors of all ages. We provide telescopes, minerals, fossils, and edible plants, so visitors stopping at our tables always have something interesting to see, do, and learn.

At the evening program on the 16th, you will meet families, some which show up every year, excited to learn something new. Bring your own family and invite your friends too!

During the school program on Friday the 17th, you'll interact with many students in grades 7 through 12. Over 1000 students are expected that day and they will be attending seminars when not in the exhibit hall. Several RAS members are giving seminar presentations: Lee Tutt, Jutta Dudley, and Marty Pepe.

Volunteers, let your Section Leader know you can help! Section leaders, for information about section table set up on Thursday afternoon contact Karen Wolf (Karen_wolf@urmc.rochester.ed u), who serves as RAS exhibits liaison with the SED committee.

Mark your calendar!-Thursday, May 15: 7 p. m. to 9
p. m.; Friday, May 16: 9:30 a.
m. to 1:00 a. m., followed by a

free luncheon for presenters and exhibitors.

Jutta Dudley
Member of the CWS-STANYS

Science Exploration Days Committee



Frank Bov happily shares great views of the sun with participants at Science Exploration Day in 2013.

Elected Officers for the Academy Board of Directors 2014-2015

The election results were announced at the Academy Annual Meeting April 3rd. The terms run from June 1, 2014 to May 31, 2015 except for positions of directors as noted below.

President: Jutta Siefert Dudley, Ph.D. Vice President: Jeffrey Gutterman, P.E. Treasurer: William Hallahan, Ph.D. Secretary: Helen Downs Haller, Ph.D.

Membership: open

Director: Michael Grenier (2 yrs, 2014-2016) Director: Douglas Kostyk (3 yrs, 2014 to 2017) Director: Lee Tutt, PhD. (3 yrs, 2014 to 2017)

Director positions that were not up for election this year:

Director: Frank Bov (term ends 2015)
Director: Reginald Smith (term ends 2016)

Director: open for appointment 2014-2015 (vacated by Helen Haller upon becoming Secretary)

Events for May, 2014

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

Fri 2 ASTRONOMY SECTION

7:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m. RIT, Gosnell Hall, Room A300. ASRAS General Members Meeting. Ian Ruchlin from RIT will speak about "A New Look at the Early Universe through the Cosmic Background". For more information, contact Valerie Rapson at (585) 301-3424.

Fri 2 FOSSIL SECTION

7:00 p. m. Brighton Recreation Center. 220 Idlewood Road near Winton Road and 590. Dr. Gordon Baird of SUNY Fredonia will speak about his adventures in the Upper Devonian of New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio. For more information, contact Dan Krisher at dlkfossil@gmail.com.

Mon 5 ASTRONOMY SECTION BOARD MEETING

7:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m. U of R, Bausch & Lomb, Chart Room. ASRAS Board meeting. Contact Valerie Rapson at 301-3424.

Sat 10 HERBARIUM

10:00 a. m. – 2:00 p. m. Life Sciences section will hold a plant mounting workshop. Participants will learn proper methods for mounting plant specimens, also techniques for repairing damaged specimens. No prior experience needed. 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 the workshop, RSVP to Elizabeth Pixley, herbarium curator (334-0977 or epixley@rochester.rr.com), as space is limited. At RMSC, go to the front desk and ask staff person to call ext. 368, the phone in the Herbarium. Lunch is served in the Museum Café until 2 pm.

Tues 20 MINERAL SECTION MONTHLY MEETING

7:00 – 9:00 p. m. Downstairs Meeting Room, Brighton Town Hall, 2300 Elmwood Ave. Dr. David Bailey, Hamilton College, will speak on "Oolitic Iron Ores from the Type Locality: Clinton." Door Prizes and Refreshments. For more information, contact Stephen Busschaert atmineralvp@rasny.org or 585-732-5321.

Wed 21 RAS BOARD

7:00 p.m. Brighton Town Hall, Stage Conference Room.

Fri 23 ASTRONOMY STAR PARTY

9:30 – 11:00 p. m. Mendon Ponds Park. Contact Jim Seidewand at (585) 703-9876.

Sat 24 LIFE SCIENCES FIELD TRIP

10:00 a. m. til people want to stop. Abraham Lincoln Park, Bay Road entrance just south of Plank Road. This is a fairly new extension of trails that wander down to the Bay with many children friendly apparatus at the parking area and nature trails to explore. We hiked some of this in Feb and April and decided to go back several times during the rest of 2014 and plan on a more indepth survey of the plants and birds in the area. Bring lunch to eat on the trail if you wish. There will be no ending time limit for the hike. For more information, contact Karen Wolf at (585) 670-9709.

ONGOING EVENT

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

OUTSIDE RAS EVENT

Thurs 16, Fri 17 SCIENCE EXPLORATION DAYS

2:00 – 4:00 p. m. Thursday RAS sets up exhibit tables 7:00 – 9:00 p. m. Thursday Evening family program. 9:30 a.m – 1:00 p. m. Friday School day program. St. John Fisher College, Student Life Center.

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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 cpres@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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