#### **Rochester Academy of Science**

# BULLETIN

"An organization of people in the Natural Sciences"



October, 2013 - Vol. 77, #8

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

#### YOU ARE INVITED TO THE FALL PAPER SESSION NOVEMBER 9

Our 40<sup>th</sup> annual Academy event features members, area scientists and students sharing their investigations and interests in scientific topics with the public. Nazareth College is hosting the event under the leadership of RAS treasurer Dr. Bill Hallahan, professor of biology. We anticipate a diversity of presentations in many fields of interest to RAS members and the public. The scheduled finale is the Larry King Memorial Lecture by Dr. Roger Easton of RIT who will show us how new imaging and computer technologies are revealing the thoughts and works of ancient scholars from text presumed to be lost or damaged beyond recovery. The program is sure to be worth rising early on a Saturday for!

#### CALL FOR RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS AT THE FALL PAPER SESSION

Have you been working on a scientific project? You'll find people attending the Fall Paper Session that would like to hear all about it! You are encouraged to present a poster or oral report. We need your abstract by Friday,

October 18. Registration information for presenters is at http://rasny.org/.

### Fall Paper Session Schedule Saturday, November 9

Nazareth College

Maps: <a href="http://maps.naz.edu/">http://maps.naz.edu/</a>

**8:00 a.m.** Registration & Refreshments. Peckham Hall Atrium.

**9:00 a.m.** Oral and Poster sessions begin. Peckham Hall.

**12:00 p.m.** Lunch, optional. \$12.

Shultz Center Reading Room. Reservation required. Form on page 2 & online at www.rasny.org. Mail check by November 4<sup>th</sup>.

**1:30 p.m.** Free Lecture by Dr. Roger Easton of RIT:

Imaging Technologies and the Impending New "Golden Age" in Manuscript Studies

Shults Center Forum

# LARRY KING MEMORIAL LECTURE

Imaging Technologies and the Impending New "Golden Age" in Manuscript Studies Presented by Dr. Roger Easton, Jr.

Advances in imaging and computing technologies are being applied to recover writings from erased or otherwise damaged manuscripts that may have been thought lost or even whose existence was unsuspected. The proliferation of imaging systems and processing methods aimed at this goal has begun and promises a deluge of new imagery to be interpreted. In this lecture, examples will be drawn from a range of projects including studies of the Archimedes palimpsest, a Syriac palimpsest with a medical undertext, the David Livingstone 1871 African field diaries, a manuscript of a French poem that was damaged in the Dresden bombings, and the collection of palimpsests at St. Catherine's Monastery in Sinai.



A glimpse of the Archimedes Palimpsest. Come to the lecture to see this amazing technology.

# October Bulletin, 2013

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

#### ABOUT OUR SPEAKER

Dr. Roger Easton, Jr. has been on the faculty of the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science at the Rochester Institute of Technology since 1986.

His interests in the fields of digital and optical holography, and image and signal processing led to the imaging of ancient documents, a growing field in which he has worked in collaboration with others since the 1990s. Dr. Easton's contributions in the use of multispectral image processing of original artifacts or photographs of ancient texts, has enabled scholars to read damaged writing that over millennia has degraded, or been erased and overwritten. Among these are the texts from the Dead Sea Scrolls

and the Archimedes Palimpsest. Currently Dr. Easton is working with a team to recover hidden texts from the palimpsests among the "New Finds" in the library at St Catherine's Monastery in the Sinai desert.

Dr. Easton is the author of the book "Fourier Methods in Imaging" (2010) and the coauthor of the chapter on image processing in "The Archimedes Palimpsest" (2011).

He has been honored with receipt of the Professor Raymond C. Bowman Award from the Society for Imaging Science and Technology, and shared the Archie Mahan Prize from the Optical Society of America with two others.



Dr. Roger Easton Jr.

#### 40th Annual Fall Scientific Paper Session November 9, 2013 Lunch Reservation Form

A buffet: cold cuts, fruit salad, chips, rolls, assorted cheese, lettuce, tomato, cookies and assorted beverages. Served in the "reading room," Shults Center from 12:00 - 1:30 pm.

The cost is \$12.00 per person.

Fill out this form and mail (**postmarked by Monday, November 4**) with a check payable to Nazareth College to:

Fern Cardella
Peckham Hall
Nazareth College
4245 East Avenue
Rochester, NY 14618

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_

Total number of meals: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Total Payment Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

# Events for October, 2013

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

#### Fri 4 ASTRONOMY SECTION

7:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m. RIT, Gosnell Hall, Room A300. ASRAS General Members Meeting. Contact Carol Latta (585) 230-9548.

#### **Tues 6 ASTRONOMY SECTION**

7:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m. U of R, Bausch & Lomb, Chart Room. ASRAS Board meeting. Contact Carol Latta (585) 230-9548.

#### **Sat 12 LIFE SCIENCES**

10 a.m. -2 p.m. – 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 and see some interesting plants! Lunch is served in the RMSC Cafe until 2 p.m., or you can bring your lunch. 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, (585) 334-0977 or epixley@rochester.rr.com

#### **Tue 15 MINERAL SECTION**

7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m. Brighton Town Hall, Downstairs Meeting Room, 2300 Elmwood Ave., Rochester, NY 14618. Monthly meeting. Our speaker will be David K. Joyce from Newmarket, Ontario. The title of his talk will be *Peru Minerals / Collecting at the Quiruvilca Mine*. Visitors welcome. Door Prizes and refreshments. For more info, please contact Stephen Busschaert <a href="mineralvp@rasny.org">mineralvp@rasny.org</a> or (585) 288-5683.

#### Wed 16 RAS BOD MEETING

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

## Sat 19 & Sun 20 MINERAL SECTION

Sat 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Minett Hall, ROC DOME Arena (the old Monroe Co. Fair & Expo Center), 2695 E. Henrietta Rd., Henrietta, NY. 44th Rochester Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show. Adults \$6, Kids under 12 free with an adult. Educational displays, demonstrations and children's activities. Debut of Hashnu Stones Studio's Galaxy gemstone line. Dealers with minerals, crystals, fossils, carvings, spheres, beads, tools. Sponsored by Rochester Academy of Science, Mineral Section. Hourly door prizes & \$1 Raffle. Free parking and handicapped accessible. For more info http://www.rasny.org/show or show@rasny.org



# Sat 19 ANTHROPOLOGY SECTION

We will attend the second International Archaeology Day event at the RMSC where there will be tables/lectures set up by the Archaeological Institute of America, Rochester Chapter. Karen Wolf (as member of AIA also) will be including handouts of the Anthro Section used at SED. Anyone who would like to help at the table would get free admission to the RMSC and could enjoy all the regular exhibits that day also. Contact Karen for more information and to volunteer to help, (585) 670-9709.



#### Sun 20 LIFE SCIENCES

2:00 p.m. We will go along with Burroughs Audubon Nature Club on their hike to Maplewood Park GENESEE RIVER LOWER AND MIDDLE FALLS AREA. See details below and please let Karen know if you are coming so she can let Shirley Shaw know how many of us to expect. Take a fall afternoon walk along the Genesee Riverway Trail from the Maplewood Rose Gardens to the Lower and Middle Falls. While enjoying the beauty of this area, we will learn about the past and present of this lovely part of Rochester from retired local newspaper columnist. Mark Hare. The BANC's own tree expert, Frank Crombe, will assist us in identifying the trees and shrubs producing the beautiful fall colors. Meet at the Maplewood Rose Gardens off Driving Park Ave. near the corner of Lake Ave. at 2:00 p.m. BANC Leader: Shirley Shaw, (585) 385-3907. Life Science contact Karen Wolf (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 at (585) 703-9876.

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

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October, 2013 - Vol. 77, #8, Page 4

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 <a href="http://www.rasny.org">http://www.rasny.org</a>

Or see us on Facebook at

https://www.facebook.com/RochesterAcademyOfScience

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

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