

# CRACK 'N CAB



Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, PO Box 2801, Syracuse, NY  
web <https://www.syracusegemociety.com> Volume 52 Issue 1, January 2022  
209 Oswego St (Ponderosa Plaza), Unit 15, Liverpool, NY



## Happy New Year!



**February 21 Speaker:** Professor Robert Darling, Distinguished Teaching Professor of Geology at SUNY Cortland



## *Holiday Party*

**December 19, 2021**

**Photo Review**



Photo by Judy Cook

**See Pages 4 -7**



**March 21 Speaker:** Calvin Prothro, Associate Professor of Geology and Planetary Sciences at OCC

## President's Message

Dick Lyons



Last year was a difficult time for you and our club. We had to cancel again our show in July. On a brighter note, our mini show in September was a success.

We are going through another difficult time because of the latest variant of the virus. As many of you know by now, **I made the final decision not to have any meetings this month.** The current rules for being safe make it impossible for any group to have meetings this month. As president of the local Kiwanis Club, I had to make the same decision for that organization.

Cheryl Brown is now planning on having **our first Show Committee meeting next month.** We are still moving forward in having a show in July.

Like many other clubs, we decided not to have any **field trips** last year. We hope that will change this year. As mentioned in this newsletter, **Dr. Darling from Cortland** is our featured speaker for February. He may be able to lead us this year to a hidden site that Mark Grasmeyer was previously unable to locate.

Once again, we have hired Dana Schwartz to be our **webmaster** for the coming year.

I should discourage you from visiting other club shows this year. At the moment, the **Buffalo Club** is planning on having their annual show on March 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> at the Erie County Fairgrounds. The **Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club** is planning on having their show the following weekend as mentioned in our December CRACK 'N CAB. The show is located just a few miles South of the PA state line. Once

again, the **West Springfield Show** is being planned for August 12th through 14th.

Dick Lyons

## Secretary's Reports

Charlie Brown

### Executive Board Meeting Minutes

The GMSS Board meets the first Tuesday of the month at the clubhouse in Liverpool (Ponderosa Plaza) behind Heid's at 7:00 PM. GMSS members are welcome to attend.

### **Monthly Member Meeting, 12-19-21**

A regular meeting was not held. Our Annual Holiday Party replaced this monthly meeting and was held on Sunday, December 19th at Bella Domani Restaurant in North Syracuse from 12 noon 'til 4 PM. The meeting was well attended, brunch was tasty and filling, a gift exchange for all attending was held, along with a group reciting of *The Night Before Christmas* and recognition of Dave Millis as our *Rockhound of the Year*. As in past years, a voluminous number of food items were collected and boxed for donation to a local food pantry. It was a pleasant and enjoyable meeting of our members.

### **Executive Board Meeting Minutes, 1-4-2022**

The meeting was cancelled by President Dick Lyons. The next Executive Board Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, February 1st.

January Show  
Committee Meeting  
**Canceled**  
Next Meeting  
February 22  
7:00

## Geo Lexis (Puzzle) By Anne Fitzgerald

### *"Ringling In The New Year"*

While the holidays may be over, the sounds of the seasons still resonate. We can find out so much of the past through fossils, but could we ever know what the world sounded like millions of years ago? It seems impossible but hear me out. Since sound travels in waves, shouldn't there be a way to trap and keep those waves? Turns out, some scientists (and artists) are finding ways to record sound waves in sand. And if those waves can be recorded, couldn't they somehow be preserved? And if they can be preserved, wouldn't future generations be able to duplicate and hear the sounds? I haven't found a sound answer yet, but along the way, I learned about "sonorous" or "lithophonic" rocks. These are rocks that may ring or ping when hit, and they too are somewhat of a mystery. Some scientists suggest that even the rocks of Stonehenge may have been chosen for their sonorous quality. The British government forbids hammering on the famous rocks however, in an attempt to prevent the harmful touristy hacking of the kind that destroyed the real Plymouth Rock.

Unscramble the following components of sonorous rocks, some you may never have heard of. A solution is on Page 4 of this newsletter.

malumuni  
phiboleam  
tinlf  
shornlef  
roni  
vineoli  
liteonpho  
tales

## Upcoming Events

*Happy New Year!*

**January 17 – GMSS meeting – 7:30 pm**  
Kris Boronczyk and John Sweeney are off the hook – **NO MEETING!**

**January 25 – 1st NYS Fair 2022 Show Committee meeting – not until February.**

**February 1 – GMSS Board meeting – 7 pm.** All are invited.

**February 21 – GMSS meeting – 7:30 pm**  
Our speaker will be Professor Robert Darling, Distinguished Professor of Geology at SUNY Cortland.

**February 22 – 1st NYS Fair 2022 Show Committee meeting – 7 pm at the Clubhouse, led by Cheryl Brown.**

**March 1 – GMSS Board meeting – 7 pm**  
All are invited.

**March 5-6—MERIDEN, CONNETICUT:** Annual show; The Lapidary & Mineral Society of Central CT; Maloney High School, Gravel Street; Sat. 9:30-5, Sun. 10-4; \$5 adults; under 12 free; minerals, crystals, fossils, jewelry, and more; contact Tom Benedict; Email: [tbenedict@ymail.com](mailto:tbenedict@ymail.com); Website: [www.lmscc.org](http://www.lmscc.org)

**March 5-6—WILMINGTON, DELAWARE:** Annual show; Delaware Mineralogical Society, Inc; DoubleTree by Hilton, 4727 Concord Pike (Rt-202) ; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 11-5; Adults \$6, Seniors \$5, Juniors \$4, children under 12 and scouts in uniform free with adult; Mineral, lapidary and fossil exhibits. Displays from regional and university museums. Outstanding dealers. Quality specimen raffles. Free door raffle. Lapidary demonstrations. Children's booth where youngsters may purchase inexpensive minerals and fossils; contact Elaine Kipp; Email: [kippekip@hotmail.com](mailto:kippekip@hotmail.com); Website: [www.DMSrocks.org](http://www.DMSrocks.org) - Note this is the new website.

**March 11-12—RICHBORO, PENNSYLVANIA:** Annual show; Leidy Microscopic Society ; Advent Lutheran Church, 45 Worthington Mill Rd , 916 Senator Rd; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 9-6; \$25 half table / \$40 whole table for two days; 45th Annual Leidy Micromount Symposium - Micromount sales, Silent Auctions, Give-Away Tables, Speakers; contact Donald McAlarnen, 916 Senator Rd, East Norriton, PA 19403-4033, (610) 247-5097; Email: [donmcalarnen@outlook.com](mailto:donmcalarnen@outlook.com); Website: <https://efmls.org/societies/leidy-microscopical-society/>

**March 21 – GMSS meeting – 7:30 pm**  
Our speaker will be Calvin Prothro, Associate Professor of Geology and Planetary Sciences at Onondaga Community College.

**March 25-27—HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA:** Annual show; Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.; Hickory Metro Convention Center, 1960 13th Ave Drive, SE, 5254 Olde School Drive; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Admission is \$5.00 good for all three days. Children 12 and under free. Law enforcement active or retired military with credentials, scouts and leaders in uniform free ; 28+ vendors selling a variety of gems, minerals, fossils and jewelry; contact Dean Russell, 5254 Olde School Drive, Hickory, NC 28602, (828) 303-1448; Email: [cvgmcsecretary@aol.com](mailto:cvgmcsecretary@aol.com); Website: Dean Russell  
(Continued on next page)

**March 26-27—PLYMOUTH MEETING,**

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Annual show; Philadelphia Mineralogical Society and Delaware Valley Paleontological Society; Plymouth Meeting, Pennsylvania, 5140 Butler Pike; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; \$7.00 adults, \$2.00 kids 12 & under. All uniformed scouts are free; Mineral Treasures and Fossil Fair. Demonstrations by the Leidy Microscopical Society. Fossils, minerals, gems, speakers and exhibits ; contact Douglas M Klieger, PA; Email: [dklieger@verizon.net](mailto:dklieger@verizon.net); Website: [www.philamineralsociety.org](http://www.philamineralsociety.org)

**March 26-27—WYSOX, PENNSYLVANIA:**

Annual show; Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club; Wysox Volunteer Fire Co. Social Hall, 111 Lake Road; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Adults - \$3, Students \$1, under 8 free; Special exhibit from Susquehanna River Archaeological Center. Member exhibits. Kids activities. Dealers selling minerals, gems, fossils, jewelry and lapidary. Door prizes; contact Bob McGuire, PO Box 224, Lopez, PA 18628, (570) 928-9238; Email: [uvbob1942@gmail.com](mailto:uvbob1942@gmail.com); Website: [www.chehannarocks.com](http://www.chehannarocks.com)

**March 26-27—CHICOPEE, MASSACHUSETTS:**

Annual show; Western Mass Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show sponsored by the Connecticut Valley Mineral Club; Castle of Knights Meeting and Banquet House, 1599 Memorial Dr.,; Sat. 9:30-5, Sun. 9:30-3:30; Admission \$5; 12 and under free with paid adult; Scouts in uniform free; New location, free parking, free mineral specimens for children, door prize drawing, postcard drawing, a non-profit educational organization ; contact Barbara Meyer, CVMC Show Co-Chairperson, 17 Shadowbrook Estates, South Hadley, MA 01075, (978) 394-3144; Email: [bimeyer56@yahoo.com](mailto:bimeyer56@yahoo.com); Website: <https://cvmineralclub.org>

**March 29 –NYS Fair 2022 Show Committee meeting – 7 pm at the Clubhouse, led by Cheryl Brown.**

**Answers to Geo Lexis**

malumuni	aluminum
phiboleam	amphibole
tinlf	flint
shornlef	hornfels
roni	iron
vineoli	olivine
lideonpho	phonolite
tales	slate

**Sources and further reading:**

*Aisha Lawrey, STEM Ambassador. Engineer, Educator as seen on a terrific kid's show: "Mission Unstoppable"*  
<https://spookygeology.com/ringing-rocks-and-sonorous-stones/October 8, 2020>

<https://swaag.org/GEOLOGY/lithophonic%20stones.htm>  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ringing\\_rocks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ringing_rocks)

## Our Annual Holiday Party

December 19, 2021 at Bella Domani  
 Photos by Judy Cook



**Pretty as a picture!**



**Everybody was so anxious to get to the food table, they pushed the poor crippled kid to the side!**



There was plenty of good food to eat.



That's *not* the serving table, Charlie and Cheryl!



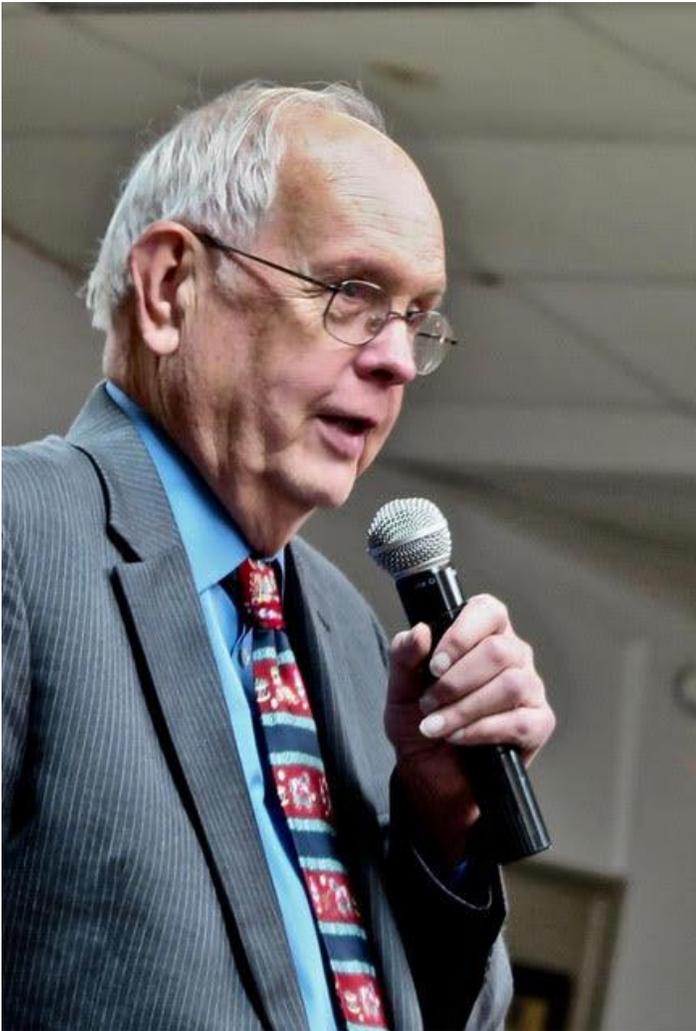
Every had fun around the tables.



Dave Millis' mica ship finally came in. It only took him about 40 hours to make!



Even "Tiny Tim" was there!



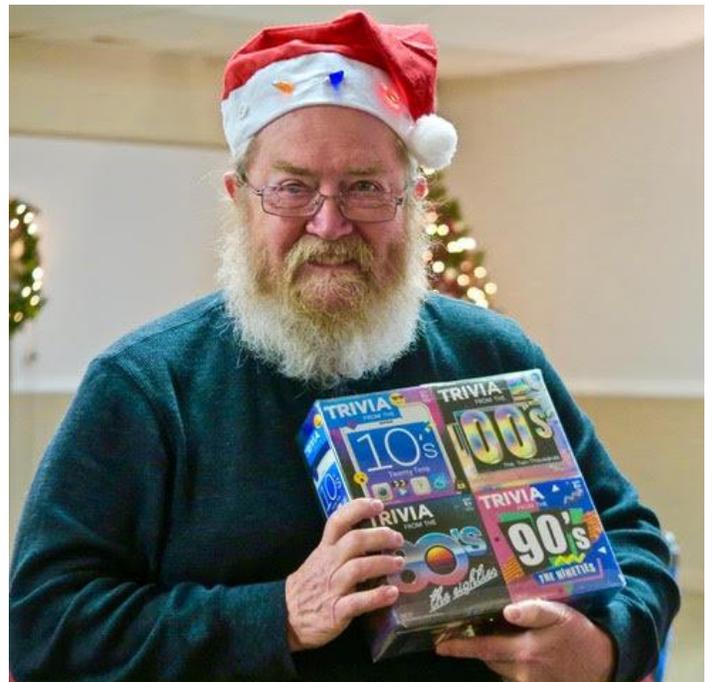
**Oh, no. Not another lecture on West Point quarters!**



**And just *where* is that specimen from?**



**Joey got just what he wanted from the Prize Drawing.**



**Now that's a pretty "trivial" prize.**



**And here are a couple of properly and fashionably dressed couples!**



**And In the News...**

**Dinosaur footprints dating back 200 million years discovered on Wales beach**

By Sana Noor Haq, CNN Updated 4:38 AM ET, Sun Jan 2, 2022

**London (CNN)**Footprints discovered on a beach in Wales are believed to have been made by an early dinosaur more than 200 million years ago, experts say. Paleontologists at London's Natural History Museum said the footprints, which date back to the Triassic period, were thought to belong to a very early sauropod or sauropod relative.



One of the prints found on a beach in Wales. Courtesy: Peter Falkingham

Dr. Susannah Maidment and her colleague, professor Paul Barrett, were initially sent images of the tracks at the beach in Penarth by an amateur paleontologist in 2020. At first, they were skeptical of the findings. The scientists thought they were part of the "geological process" of the beach and were skeptical they could be footprints, but further evaluation suggested they were dinosaur tracks from the late Triassic period, just when dinosaurs began to reign supreme on Earth.

**A previously undiscovered super volcano could be under these Alaskan islands**  
[briefupdates.com](http://briefupdates.com)

A new study suggests that a wide crater that connects at least four existing volcanos near Alaska's Aleutian Islands was created when a super volcano exploded. John Power, a geophysicist at the U.S. Geological Survey's Alaska Volcano Observatory, said that if it had erupted during the last few thousand years it could have disrupted civilizations around the world. The volcanoes' peaks are arranged in such a way that shows arc-shaped ridges and a 130-meter-deep depression in the center, which hints that the volcanoes are connected by one big caldera.

**Massive blue gemstone weighing 683 pounds 'is indeed a rare specimen'**

by Associated Press Monday, December 13th, 2021

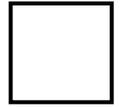


A 683 pounds heavy natural corundum blue sapphire is on display at a residence in Horana, about 25 miles south of Colombo, Sri Lanka, Sunday, Dec. 12, 2021. (AP Photo/Eranga Jayawardena)



**Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse**  
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[www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)   [www.amfed.org/efms](http://www.amfed.org/efms)   [Future Rockhounds](#)

Eight people organized the Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse in 1951. Since that time it has grown in membership to include adults, families, and young folk. The Society was incorporated in 1969 under the same name.

The objectives of the Society are to stimulate interest in mineralogy, paleontology, and the lapidary arts. Member interests include collecting, identification, and display of minerals, gems, fossils. Members share and develop their artistic skills in jewelry design and creation.

Our monthly meetings provide social and educational experiences. Field trips give collectors chances to find specimens and enjoy the outdoors, exercise and time with old and new friends.

**Meetings - 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month**  
**Future Rockhounds @ 6:30 - General Meeting @ 7:30**  
**(NO Meetings Jul, Aug, Dec)**

**209 Oswego St (Ponderosa Plaza) Unit 14 & 15, Liverpool, NY**  
**Visitors are ALWAYS welcome!**

See online Newsletter <http://gmss.us/resources/newsletter>  
 You can also visit our facebook and flickr pages  
**Annual member dues**

**Adult \$10 • Family/Couple \$15 • Junior \$5 • Life \$5**

If you would like to join or renew membership download the application form (PDF), see <http://gmss.us/about/membershipform.pdf> You can get a form at a meeting or send requests to **GMSS, PO Box 2801, Syracuse, NY 13220** We will mail an application/renewal form to you.

## 2021 – 2022 GMSS Officers/Contacts

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