

CRACK 'N CAB



Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, PO Box 2801, Syracuse, NY
web <https://syracusegemsociety.com> Volume 51 Issue 6, **June 2021**
209 Oswego St (Ponderosa Plaza), Unit 15, Liverpool, NY

June 21 Meeting, 7:30 pm at the Clubhouse: *70th Anniversary Celebration*



Ice Cream & Cupcakes!

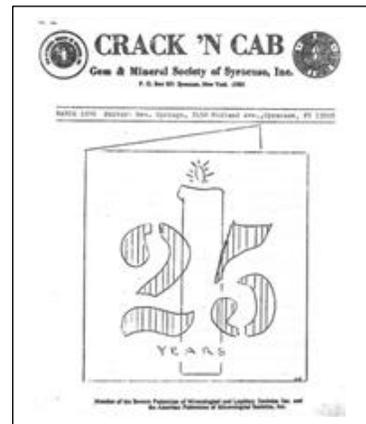
**Also: Curbside Tailgate
Rock, Mineral & Fossil
Swap & Sale!**

25th Anniversary Lookback:

May 1976 President's Message – Page 7

April 1976 Notes from the Editor – Page 8

May 1976 Silver Anniversary Dinner – Page 9



“New York Rock of the Month” – Page 5

May Meeting Review – Page 6



Photo by Judy Cook

President's Message

Dick Lyons



As of June 1st, 47% of the adult population in New York State is fully vaccinated. Already Governor Cuomo is allowing the Syracuse Nationals Auto Show to use three of the buildings at the Fairgrounds, with restrictions, for their show.

I recently contacted most of our dealers that participated in our July 2019 show about the possibility of **having a mini show in September**. Thirty-four of the dealers responded so far. Only ten of them have commitments to shows in Ohio, Maryland, and elsewhere. As Cheryl Brown has reported in this newsletter (see below), **we are making plans to have a show. Our club needs your support to make this event a success.**

I have already had our editor contacting our club members about **a carpool trip in August to the show at the Big E in West Springfield** (see ad on Pg. 4). We are also considering a carpool to the **St. Lawrence Show in August. Think about these shows and let me know if you are interested.**

Dick Lyons

"The Mini Show" Committee

It's the Mini Show!

September 25 and 26

*Holiday Inn Convention Center on
Electronics Parkway*

Set-up on Friday the 24th

Saturday 10 – 6

Sunday 10 – 4

The Mini- Show Committee will meet again, on **June 29** at 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse.
See you then!

Cheryl Brown
GMSS Mini-Show Chair

Secretary's Report

Cathy Patterson

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

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

Executive Board Meeting Minutes June 1, 2021

Present were 15 Board and club members. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Dick Lyons.

Nominating Committee

Charles Brown has offered to serve one year as club secretary. Normally officers serve 2 years but last year was special as Cathy Patterson offered to take over the Secretary position on an odd year. In 2022 all offices will need to be filled. The current slate of officers(s) will be presented at the June meeting and the membership will cast their votes for the secretary position. The new secretary will start the position in September 2021.

Treasurer's Report

Mary Davis announced that all checks have been sent back to our vendors for the canceled show this year. Despite the fact that COVID restrictions continue to change, and buildings WILL open this summer at the State Fairgrounds it was too late to get our summer show planned, advertised, and set up with such uncertainty so late in the season. We are making other plans!

Club Show – Mini Show!

September 25-26, 2021, our show will be held at the current Holiday Inn on Electronics Parkway in Liverpool. By September the Holiday Inn will become the Ramada Inn. Admission will be \$5.00 for this smaller show. We have contacted a number of dealers but the space at the hotel is only 9000 sq. ft. not 60,000 as would be at the Center of Progress Building at the State Fair. This will be a sized-down show, but we expect good attendance and excellent vendors! So far 18 vendors have replies YES and 1 wholesale vendor (South Pacific Beads) are planning to attend. There will be no speakers, psychic area or youth area due to size restrictions. Expect Gems, fossils, minerals, beads as usual. Plans are under way to make this show a big success. Thanks to **Cheryl Brown** and **Dick Lyons** for volunteering to take this task to hand!

(Continued on next page)

Other Mineral Shows

Herkimer Mineral Show date has been changed to July 24-25 at the Frankfort, NY Fairgrounds. (see "Upcoming Events," Pg. 4)

East Coast Show "extravaganza" will be held at the Big E in West Springfield, MA August 13-15, 2021. This show is enormous! (see ad on Pg. 4)

St. Lawrence Club Show – August 21-22, 2021, will be at the Canton Pavilion, 90 Lincoln St. , Canton, NY. Things are starting to open back up!

Programs and Field Trips

Vice President, **Kris Boronczyk**, says the **June program** for the regular club meeting will be a tailgate sell and swap in the parking lot of the clubhouse. We are arranging to have the ice cream truck serve up soft ice cream like last year. It will be a social event.

August – We are still working on setting up the annual picnic at the Erie Canal site as usual. It is still too early to learn if a group our size can reserve the pavilion area.

December – Holiday Party, Dec. 19th reserved at Bella Domani. Brunch or light lunch.

Lapidary Committee

Steve Shorey is still opening up the club Wednesdays 1:00 – 4:00 for lapidary work. The cost is \$5 and training on the use of machines is required. Others may meet to work on their own club activities.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Patterson GMSS Secretary

Geo Lexis (Puzzle) By Anne Fitzgerald

"The Summer Sun"

While reflecting on the summer solstice, I remember several science teachers who really did try to explain it to me. They were bright, logical, science teachers, but all I could figure out was the sun seemed closer, but I didn't understand why or how.

It wasn't until a science teacher took a globe and a flashlight and tipped the top of the globe toward the flashlight that I came to understand the solstice.

The sun is still a mystery to scientists. While they know some of the components of the sun, they still don't know the exact percentages of the components. It's like eating a great cookie that can never be made. Despite knowing all the ingredients,

without the measurements, there is no recreating the cookie.

Unscramble the following words to determine the ingredients of the sun. See how you shine! (The solution is on another page of this newsletter.)

roni

bronac

genortin

gxyeno

onen

muileh

fursul

nocilis

musienmag

The solution is on Page 5 of this newsletter.

Upcoming Events

JUNE 4-6—WAUSEON, OHIO: Annual show; State Line Gem & Mineral Society; JR Fair Building, Fulton County Fairgrounds, Wauseon, OH, 1814 SR 108, Wauseon, OH, Fulton County Fairgrounds; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-4; Adults \$4, seniors (60 and older) \$3, free admission for veterans and children 12 and under; Vendors, demonstrations, displays, and silent auction; contact Sherman Kardatzke, 1814 SR 108, Wauseon, OH, Fulton County Fairgrounds, Wauseon, OH 43567, (517) 673-5487; Email: sakardatzke@gmail.com; Website: <https://www.statelinegms.com>

June 5—MAUNGIE, PA: Annual show; Pennsylvania Earth Sciences Association; Macungie Memorial Park, 50 Poplar St.; Sat. 8:30-3; Admission \$2; Spring Mineralfest - *will be either mostly indoor or all outdoor depending on local COVID precaution ordinances at the time - face masks must be worn*; contact Mandy Apgar; Website: <https://www.facebook.com/Pennsylvania-Earth-Sciences-Association-PESA-mineralfest-and-clubs-1555170821375067/>

JUNE 5 – 6 -CORNING, NY: Finger Lakes Gem, Mineral and Fossil Club Gem Show, sponsored by The Finger Lakes Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club; USW Local 1000, 100 Nasser Civic Center Plaza, Corning, NY. Sat. 10am - 6pm, Sun. 10am - 4pm; Adults \$3, Children 12 and under & Scouts in uniform

FREE with Adult. Crystals, Minerals, Fossils, Jewelry, Gems, Wirewrapping, Metaphysical stones & More. *Masks must be worn to enter the Gem Show. Please practice social distancing.*

<https://www.facebook.com/events/3658170617585147/>

JUNE 12—CHERRY HILL, NJ: 1st "Annual" Summer South Jersey Gem, Jewelry, Mineral & Fossil Outdoor Show; The Jewish Federation of Southern NJ Annex Bldg, 1721 Springdale Rd, Cherry Hill, NJ; Sat. 10am – 5pm, (Rain Date: Sun., June 13); Free admission, 14 dealers. *Face coverings required.* Website: <https://www.sjminerals.com>

JUNE 12-13—MANSFIELD, OHIO: Annual show; Richland Lithic & Lapidary Society; Richland County Fairgrounds, 750 North Home Rd.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; Free admission; Our theme is Diamonds and Gemstones; contact Tom Kottyan, Mansfield, OH, (419) 562-1152; Email: theminerhouse@netzero.net

June 21, 2021 GMSS meeting - 7:30 pm Tailgate Sale & 70th Anniversary Ice Cream Social celebration. We expect to have our friend "Skippy" show up!

JUNE 26—KENT, CONNECTICUT: Annual show; Danbury Mineralogical Society and the Connecticut Museum of Mining; Connecticut Antique Machinery Museum Campus, 31 Kent-Cornwall Road; Sat. 9-4; free admission; Show will take place rain or shine, new vendors welcome; contact John Pawloski, P.O. Box 425, Kent, CT 06757, (860) 927-0050; Email: j.a.pawloski@att.net; Website: www.ctamachinery.com

June 29, 2021 – "The Mini-Show" Committee Meeting – 7 pm at the Clubhouse, led by Cheryl Brown.

July 6, 2021 – GMSS Board Meeting – 7 pm at the Clubhouse.

July 24-25 – FRANKFORT, NY: Herkimer Diamond Gem Show & Festival; Herkimer County Fairgrounds, 135 Cemetery St, Frankfort. Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5. Gems, Minerals, Crystals, Fossils, Local Goods, Food, Crafts, Psychic Fair, Music and more! Adults \$5, children 12 & under free. Website: <http://www.herkgemshow.com/>

July 24-25—ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA: Show and sale; Gem City Rock & Mineral Society; ZEM ZEM Shriners Banquet & Conference Center, 2525 West 38th St; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$4, seniors \$3.50, free admission for children under 12 and scouts in uniform; Dealers offering crystals, gems, fossils, geodes, jewelry beads; demonstrations and displays; activities for children; and admission is based on Federal, State, Local and Conference Center recommendations and mandates for masks, social distance & occupancy at the time of the show & sale; contact Gem City Rock & Mineral Society, Erie, PA; Email: gemcityrockclub@gmail.com

August 20-22—LEBANON, PENNSYLVANIA: Annual show; Mid-Atlantic Gem and Mineral Association; Lebanon Valley Fairgrounds and Expo, 80 Rocherty Road; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; Adults \$6, free admission for children under 12; Mid-Atlantic's 23rd annual premium gem, jewelry, bead, mineral and arts show; Gem Miner's Jubilee; contact Teresa

Schwab, PO Box 352, Monrovia, MD 21770, (301) 807-9745; Email: beadware@rcn.com; Website: www.gem-show.com

Wednesday Workshop

Steve Shorey has opened the **lapidary workshop** again on **Wednesday afternoons from 1 to 4.** If you have taken John Sweeney's Lapidary class, you can use the club equipment. The cost is \$5.00.

Are you ready to get out of the house? You can also bring a non-lapidary project in to the Wednesday workshop from 1 to 4 as well. No charge. Just bring all your own tools and supplies.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

for the 2021 East Coast Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show
www.mineralshowsllc.com

EAST COAST



GEM, MINERAL AND FOSSIL SHOW

August 13, 14, 15, 2021

Better Living Center · Eastern States Exposition
West Springfield, Massachusetts

Show Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10AM to 6PM · Sun. 10AM to 5PM
Admission: \$10.00 · Under 13 free with adult · Parking \$

"THE FLUORITES ARE COMING"

Special Exhibitor: **Dr. James Gebel**

Guest Speakers · Air-Conditioned Hall · 200 Dealers
NEWLY EXPANDED WHOLESALE SECTION

LLD PRODUCTIONS, INC., 995 Bass Court, Venice, FL 34293 * MineralShowsLLD@gmail.com * www.MineralShowsLLD.com

Note: W. Springfield is 230 miles from the Clubhouse (or 3 hrs, 28 min.)

Answers to Geo Lexis

roni	iron
bronac	carbon
genortin	nitrogen
gxyeno	oxygen
onen	neon
muileh	helium
fursul	sulfur
nocilis	silicon
musienmag	magnesium

Sources and further reading:

Two stellar articles from knowablemagazine.org:

"Tiny Living Stones of the Sea" by Laura Poppick and

"An Elemental Problem With the Sun" by Ken Crosswell.

Other fun sun facts can be found at: Academickids.com

New York Rock of the Month

In honor of (or in memory of?) our GemWorld show, and its theme of "Fossils of New York," we'll feature some rocks related to that topic. - Editor



Marcellus shale in Central New York showing Cherry Valley limestone. (usgs.gov)

Shale – is a sedimentary rock composed mainly of tiny clay particles, built up and compacted in successive thin layers in calm or slow-moving water or deep marine

environments, with a fairly uniform texture. They can also contain feldspar, quartz and mica (sometimes called "mudstone"). Its color can vary from black to white, with gray, brown, reds and greens commonly found.

One thing that sets sedimentary rocks apart from igneous and most metamorphic rocks is the possibility to find fossils in them. Mudstones and shales are good candidates for finding animal remains, shells and plant-part fossils, especially when associated with coal deposits. With these fine-grained rocks, flat objects like leaves can be preserved in detail. Other fossils that can be found are brachiopods, bivalve mollusks, gastropods, trilobites and graptolites.



Middle Devonian Natuliod pieces from Marcellus shale, Madison Co. (Jeffrey P, www.thefossilforum.com)

Ancient New York State was repeatedly submerged beneath seas and oceans of the past, teeming with an almost endless variety of aquatic life. Now, fossils of that life can be found in the sedimentary shale- and limestone-rich regions of the state. Shale beds in Central New York, around Utica and west to the Lockport quarries in the Niagara region have all kinds of fossils, including well-preserved
(Continued on next page)

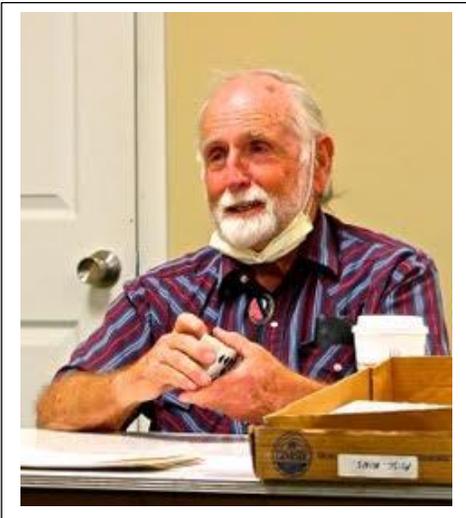
trilobites. The Catskills, Finger Lakes and around Buffalo are also rich in fossil-containing shale.

Environments where you can look for shale, and, hopefully fossils, include quarries, road cuts, outcrops, rivers, hills and lowlands.

Shales are used in manufacturing cement. Mudstones are used to make bricks and ceramics. Some shales are oil reserves and can be potential sources of petroleum.

May 17, 2021- Dave Millis Tips on playing Geoclue Mineral Game & Silent Auction

Photos by Judy Cook



In yet one more return engagement Dave "The Rock Doc" Millis gave instructions on playing a game that he invented about 20 years ago.

He created the game to

help mineral club members learn more about minerals.

Geoclue is played on a bingo-like card with 5 spaces across and 4 spaces down (and so there are no actual diagonal wins). You can win with 5 across, 4 down, the 4 corners or "postage stamp" (4 together making a square).

There are 9 categories used: Native Elements, Sulfides, Carbonates, Oxides, Feldspars, Quartzes, Inosilicates, Moh's Scale and Miscellaneous. There are 8 mineral answers in each category. Each game card has different combinations of 5 out of the 9 categories. If a player has a winning combination of answers to the clues (or the names of the minerals) Dave gives, they yell out "Geoclue" and win a mineral prize.

The hope is that as the contestants play more and more, their knowledge about the different types and kinds of minerals would increase.

Also part of the meeting was a Silent Auction where some lucky members walked away with some great deals! Many items were donated from Dick Lyons' collection. Thanks, Dick!



More Highlights of GMSS Celebrating 70 Years



CRACK 'N CAB



Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, Inc.

P. O. Box 801 Syracuse, New York 13201

MAY 1976 Editor: Geo. Springs, 3158 Midland Ave., Syracuse, NY 13205

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our Society's Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Celebration is now history. I felt very honored to have been your President, and to have been accorded the pleasure of being master of ceremonies at such a grand occasion. It will be my fondest memory, one I shall not soon forget. To those members who gave so freely of their time and ambition to put all the details together, my sincere thanks. To our distinguished guests, who at great personal expense, traveled from afar to lend support to our cause, my heartfelt thanks.

It is people like the Jensens from Rochester, the Bonars from Tampa and the Terrills from Baltimore that cause this hobby to be so filled with wonderful friends and such unlimited fellowship. Mr. Paul Desautels as our speaker provided us with much food for serious thought by presenting another of his informative talks. He surely put the frosting on our Birthday cake.

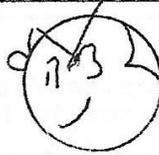
Finally, but not lightly, I want to again thank our founder, Mr. Richard Sylvester Sr. and Miss Betty Henes and George Henes, charter members, who were able to be there and the many others who had the foresight to see the need for a society such as ours, as well as the initiative and perseverance to guide us through the years to our Silver Anniversary !.

Don Briggs

APRIL 1976

"CRACK 'N CAB"

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NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

I never quite knew the real reason for the drawing of the circular figure at the top of this column for the past five years, but there might be a "clue" in Paul Desautel's fine talk on "An Aesthetic (spelling ?) Approach to Minerals" at our 25th Anniversary Dinner ! It is just possible that the "curved" line of the caricature has given a sense of continuity to these notes. I have hoped to reach out to each of you thru them and to convey something of my affection for the Society and the members who make it up. I have tried not to be biased, although I have been accused of it, as has any Editor at some time or another. I have "overlooked" the rumblings and grumblings in the belief that by so doing, I could do my small part in keeping unity in our Society. Forgive me, if I've been wrong.

I share Mr. Richard Sylvester, our founder's convictions that the officers and members have greatly improved the Society over the past recent years, despite the opposition heard on the floor and in the back rooms from time to time. Our President's Message on the cover this month should give us food for thought. Read it well.

One of the finest moments in my 62 years was to stand in front of you and our honored guests at the celebration of our Silver Anniversary and receive a plaque of appreciation for my services as Editor of the "Crack 'N Cab". When you gave me a "standing ovation", I don't know how I managed to mumble "Thanks". At that moment I couldn't have swallowed a drop from the Fountain of Youth !. I was as choked up as I was when Mr. Sylvester stood at the podium and said "Thank You" to us. God Bless him, it is us who thank him for founding this Society which has brought us all hours of pleasure, education and more important than all of these friends !

If you will bide with me a moment longer, I would like to single out one member, my wife Marian, for the recognition she deserves. It is she who has had the mechanical ability to wrestle with the actual printing of the "Crack 'N Cab", the hand addressing and stamping of every issue and last, but not least, it is she who has tolerated my ravings during the midnight oil sessions of getting the bulletin together. If she "hounded" you for your articles and messages..... ... it was for my benefit, and yours !

The dates 1971 to 1976 on my plaque are prophetic for, I must soon turn the position of Editor over to another. because a cataract on one eye has advanced rapidly and one is forming on the other. I feel that I should, at this time, conserve my sight for my work and for the enjoyment of our minerals. It is well, because I really believe that you need an Editor with new and fresh ideas. We've come a long way together let's keep on going ! Again I say Thank You, one and all.

Note: The Editor was George Springs

MAY 1976

"CRACK 'N CAB"

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OUR SILVER ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Gathering at LeMoyne Manor on Saturday evening, March 27, 1976 members of the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, Inc. celebrated their Twenty Fifth Anniversary. President Don Briggs, as master of ceremonies, introduced the dignitaries at the head table. These included Don and his wife Sharon, Mr. Richard Sylvester Sr, our founder, and his wife Louise, charter members George and Miss Betty Henes, Paul Desautels of the Smithsonian Institution, Dave and Kay Jensen of the Rochester Academy of Science, Mineral Division, Henry and Wilma Bonar of the Eastern Federation and Bran and Lonelle Terrill of Baltimore, Maryland.

Our recent past president Gene Ridall gave the prayer before dinner. After dinner, Don Briggs introduced Betty Henes who gave a sort reading on the history of the Society to date. She was followed by our founder Richard Sylvester who spoke of his gratitude for the development of our Society to its present status. David Jensen, representing the President of the Eastern Federation of Mineral and Lapidary Societies, Rufus Speaks, told of the early days when Mr. Sylvester journeyed by train to attend the meetings of the Rochester Club. It was he who encouraged the formation of a club here in Syracuse. Henry Bonar, recent past president of the EFMLS and Wilma Bonar, current 1st Vice President of the EFMLS addressed us and spoke glowingly of their visit to our February Wokshop '76.

President Don Briggs then presented a plaque of appreciation to the editor of the Crack 'N Cab, George Springs for his service of five years in that capacity, and also a gift of appreciation to Eula Bethard for her outstanding services to the Society. She has served as Corresponding Secretary, Receptionist, on many committees and, most notably, as the organizer of our many dinners, including the Twenty Fifth Anniversary Dinner, as well as those held at the church and the cafeteria at our Show and Workshops.

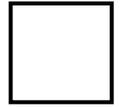
Citations were awarded to those members who participated in the President's Essay Contest which was won by Gloria Mackessy for her entry entitled "All In The Family".

The main speaker of the evening, Paul Desautels, Supervisor of the Mineralogy Division of the Smithsonian Institution, talked on "An Aesthetic Approach To the Mineral Kingdom" as well as on the Gemstone collection there. His presentation offered something for everyone and he captivated the audience with his sarm, friendly manner.



Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse
P.O. Box 2801
Syracuse, NY 13220
First Class Mail

Time Dated Material



www.amfed.org www.amfed.org/efmls [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 - 3rd 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.

2020 – 2021 GMSS Officers/Contacts

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