

# CRACK 'N CAB



Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, PO Box 2801, Syracuse, NY  
web <https://www.syracusegemsociety.com> Volume 53 Issue 6, June 2023  
209 Oswego St (Ponderosa Plaza), Unit 15, Liverpool, NY

## Monday, June 19 Meeting: Gemworld Show Prep Night!



Also: 7 pm - Silent Auction;  
and Ice Cream Sundaes!

**Merry Month of May Activities:**  
Off to the Storage Shed – Pg 7,8  
May Meeting Review – Pg 8, 9

**Lapidary Loss & Request – Pg 4**  
**Poetry Corner – Ode to a familiar  
fossil – Page 6 and 7**  
**“Find of the Year” – Page 10**



Photos by Judy Cook

## President's Message

John Sweeney



bigcountryguides.com

Just in the nick of time (actually 2 hours late), our Club president submitted his monthly report. – Editor

Despite rumors of being abducted by blue-footed boobies, joining a cult of very serious but frolicking sea lions or falling into a volcano, I thought I'd clear up things and let everyone know we're back. My thanks to Cathy Patterson our able-bodied Vice President for taking the helm while we were off in the islands. Without digressing too far off the message at hand, I would like to say if you ever have a chance to go to the Galapagos, go. We walked in lava tubes, traversed lava fields, climbed volcanoes and saw incredible wildlife. We swam with myriads of fish, sea turtles, sea lions and even some sharks. At one point our ship was anchored in view of seven volcanoes, one still active and smoking.

Now back to business. **Our next meeting will be a work night and the final meeting before our show in July** and we have quite a few details to iron out. First and foremost, **we have a lot of positions and duties for the weekend of the show that need to be filled. Please sign up on the sign-up sheets on the back wall of the meeting room** or contact Cheryl Brown so that we can organize our efforts. It's not enough to just say I'll be there. **We will be filling bags for the sluice in the kid's area the night of the meeting. If you have anything that you would like to donate that could go into the bags, we could use some material.** Cathy covered this in the message last month. **Think crystals, fossils, Shark's teeth, colored stones, etc.** Keith Gilmore is still putting together a final number for cases needed which means **you still have time to get a case to show off your collection.** That sign-up sheet is there as well. As a reward for all our hard work that night smashing rocks for the sluice bags, rolling straws for the straw draw, making buttons, loading bags of sand, etc. **we will be having ice cream with toppings for everyone to keep up their strength.** The real reward, however, is having a viable functioning club.

I was struck by the comment one of members made as we surveyed the sign-up sheets on the way out of a meeting not too long ago and we noticed all the empty slots. He said "don't they realize how important this is? It's how we pay the rent."

That got me to thinking does everyone realize that? Now don't get me wrong here. I don't think anyone joined the club to sit by a door, or sell tickets or any of the other myriad of tasks it takes to run the show, although I do always have a lot of fun doing it. That's not why we are here. At least that's not why I'm here. I like the fellowship, the knowledge and meeting people. **But it is that one weekend a year of volunteering our time that makes our meeting place, our lapidary shop and a lot more possible for the rest of the year. Literally it keeps the lights on.** If you want to do more than that there's plenty of ways to get involved and do more. But at the minimum we pretty much need all hands-on-deck at show time. One last caveat, at the board meeting last night a new member **Lee Levesque III brought in the largest most gorgeous skeletal Herkimer diamonds I have ever seen (see Page 10).** They are **easily the best mineralogical finds in NY State this year** and he found them in the last few weeks at the Mohawk Valley Mine right down the Thruway from us. They are stunning and he will be displaying them in a case at the show and talking about them there and later at one of our meetings. This is a fee mine and the club will be organizing a trip there soon. Check them out on our Facebook page.

## Show Committee Message

Cheryl Brown, Chair

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to work at the show. If you haven't done so yet, **please sign up at the June meeting** or contact Cheryl at [gmsrocks@gmail.com](mailto:gmsrocks@gmail.com) to find out where the needs are. If you come to the show to work without signing up for a job, please see Cheryl for an assignment.

***Your participation is very important!* We need everyone to help.** There is a job for you, whether it's working with children, walking the floor as security, working in the club booth, selling tickets, greeting people as they come in the door, sitting at an access door or at the wholesale entrance.

Are you new to the club? This is a great way to get to know other members of the club.

## Secretary's Reports Teresa Arnold

### GMSS Board Meeting Minutes June 6, 2023

#### President – John Sweeney:

1. Candidates for scholarship money (\$500.) We will look for candidates in the fall.
2. We need worker slots filled for show!!!

#### Secretary Report – Teresa Arnold:

1. Accept Minutes – Motion: Linda, Second: Cathy; accepted

**Treasurer Report - Linda Clark:**

1. No report this month.
2. Shirts – Linda will take orders next week, shirts will be ready by show.

**VP Report - Cathy Patterson:**

1. **June work night:** What do we need? We need specimens for sluice bags – Lee L. offered some Herkimer diamonds. We will stuff straws for straw draw. Linda will bring **ice cream with toppings**.
2. **No July meeting**, but we will hold a post-show meeting.
3. **August Picnic will be at Canal Park on August 6th.** Club will provide meats and members will bring dishes to pass.
4. **Dave Millis is leading a group to Pitcairn Sat. 6/10** – Larry will send an email blast with info for anyone interested. There will also be a **future field trip to Tully**.
5. Pending field trip to Diamond Mtn. (near Little Falls) with Lee L.

**Web Mistress – Amanda Lytle:** Looking good. Nice pictures of the shop and show.

1. Amanda will fix some links and feature NY State in posts.
2. She will add P.O. Box to website.

**Membership:** No report

**Junior Rock Hounds – Rick Moore:** We are invited to **Sylvan Beach Canal Fest August 13th**. Dave will get details.

**Hospitality:** Ice cream for work meeting – Linda.

**Lapidary Committee – Steve Shorey/ Bill Verge:** Classes running? Yes, new one to start after show. Need to replace a grinder with a bad motor – will research a new machine.

**Show Committee – Cheryl Brown:**

1. **Next Show Committee meeting moved;** Cheryl at polls. **Probably Wed. 6/28**. Dick has replaced some dealers and is moving others around.
2. **Wed 6/14, John going to storage area** for magazines, club booth stuff and sluice materials. Anyone welcome to join.

3. Do we need to repair cases? Will discuss with Keith.
4. Going to buy more soapstone, probably need \$150.

**Editor - Larry Petry:** deadline: Wednesday 6/7 by 11:30PM. We need member articles.

**Building:**

1. Need to consolidate A and B for demo. Set up workday to consolidate rooms and plan tear down.
2. Need to build a fluorescent mineral case to house Sharp and other displays. Any woodworkers have time? Lee will look at the project.
3. **John wants to start a rock carvers group using tables outside.** Will try for a weekday evening or afternoon (possibly Thursday), more info to come.

**Sergeant at Arms – Matt Klinger:** We have a new computer to start collection summary and use at show. Still downloading some stuff on it.

**Library – Steve Albro:** Amanda has been categorizing books and magazines. She's creating a catalog and will provide to Steve Albro. Rick Moore has some Mineralogical Records to contribute. Duplicate magazines will be used as door prizes at meeting and to sell at show.

**The Metaphysical Sign is missing** – John will look in storage again, if not located, we will order a new one.

**\*\*\*Lee showed Medusa and her baby!! (see Page 10)** They are 400 to 500 MILLION years old!! What a treat.

He will be exhibiting them at the show and will be on hand to educate people. Photos and videos can be found online: Mohawk Valley Mineral Mining and NY Rockhounds on FB.

Kip suggested holding the **auction on a weekend** instead of after a meeting. We will discuss.

Also, the possibility of **bringing back the Lapidary and Mineral Contests**.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Teresa Arnold, Secretary



# Lapidary Loss and Request

Hello Members of the Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse,

The club's cutting lab suffered the loss of one of its lapidary cutting machines two weeks ago. Our Graves unit motor burned out. As many of you know the Graves Company has had issues with delivering parts in recent years so we cannot get a replacement motor from them. Steve Shorey has taken it to the best motor rebuilding shop in Upstate NY and they cannot fix it. Grainger's cannot find a replacement. The Motor was built by the Lasson Company, and I have spent many hours tracing the company through several mergers, reading 400-page catalogs, and filling out a form asking for help from the Lasson Company without any response from them.

This leads me to a request. If anyone has a lapidary grinding machine that uses 6 wheels 6 inches in diameter that they would like to donate to the GMSS, now would be a great time to help us. We need one that has 1 inch shaft to fit the diamond wheels that we have would be great. If you are driving distance of Syracuse I or Steve would be willing to pick it up.  
Thank you for any help!

Please email me with any information that you might have.  
Bill Vergé  
[b.verge@comcast.net](mailto:b.verge@comcast.net)

Welcome to New Members  
in May

Lydia Kurt  
Jim Kurt  
Sue Stockin

Renewing Members

Jay Tinker  
Judy Tinker

**Geo Lexis (Puzzle)  
By Anne Fitzgerald**

## "Of Salt and Batteries"

Most words have a pretty mundane origin, like from the Greek or the Latin, blah blah blah. But some words have an interesting history, like the word "battery." Benjamin Franklin way back in the 1700's is credited for using the word "battery" as we do today. In fact, he created his own capacitor that could store electricity. After one too many deliberate zaps inflicted by himself to himself, Franklin felt he was a victim of "battery."

Fast forward to the 1800's when Alessandro Volta (the Volt guy) noticed that different metals produced different effects when exposed to salt water.

Fast forward to 1979 when John Goodenough (not one to brag) introduced his concept of Lithium-ion batteries to the world. Lithium-ion batteries have their drawbacks, like exploding and not working well in cold temperatures.

Now 100 years old, John Goodenough is still around and flashback the Volt guy, he is working on a sodium-ion battery. This offers great promise for our Earth as sodium is so much easier to come by compared to Lithium. And sodium-ion batteries work better in cold weather.

Goodenough is also credited for working on RAM memory back in the 1950s. Can you imagine what Goodenough and Franklin could have worked on together? Battery-RAMS?

Here are some word puzzles if you have the mental energy. If you find yourself drained, answers are found on Page 6 of this newsletter.

power \_\_\_\_\_

circuit

r  
e  
w  
o  
p

circuit  
load

## Show Committee Meeting

### New Date: Wednesday, June 28

at 7:00. Our last meeting before the BIG SHOW. This is an important meeting to tie up any loose ends. Everyone is welcome.

## Upcoming Events

**JUNE 19 – GMSS meeting – 7:30 pm, Work Night for our July Show!** Stuff straws and sluice bags, plus any other tasks that need doing before the Show. **Sign-up sheets for Volunteer Positions.** Also, Silent Auction (7 pm) **And: Make-Your-Own Ice Cream Sundaes!**



Photo by Judy Cook

**JUNE 28 (Wed.) – (Last-minute) “New York Rocks” Show Committee meeting – 7 pm** at the Clubhouse. All are invited.

**JULY 4 – NO GMSS Board meeting** – No one is invited. *It’s Independence Day, for crying out loud!*

**JULY 7-9 – The Gemworld Show!**  
**Fri setup starting 8 am. Sat. Show 10 am – 6 pm. Sun. Show 10 am – 4 pm.**

**JULY 10 (Mon.) – Field Trip to Mohawk Valley Mineral Mining** – See details in the box on right.

**AUG. 6 (Sun.) – GMSS Club Picnic** – Erie Canal Park, 5750 Devoe Rd., Camillus; 11 am – 3 pm. More information to come.

## Herkimer Diamond Field Trip

We are hosting the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (EFMLS) annual conference during our show. The Eastern Federation is our umbrella organization that helps us with necessities like more affordable group insurance rates.

**Our club has scheduled a field trip on Monday, July 10 to Mohawk Valley Mineral Mining** in search of Herkimer diamonds in conjunction with the conference. There are a few spots available to our club members. The cost is \$75.00 per person, which is a 40% discount. **If you are interested in going, please sign up at the June meeting. You must bring a check or cash to the meeting to confirm your reservation.** We will be leaving from the Holiday Inns and Suites at 400 7th North Street at 8am Monday. **The deadline to register is June 23rd.**

Contact Cheryl at [gmsrocks@gmail.com](mailto:gmsrocks@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Summer Shows:

**June 10—KENT, CT:** Show; Connecticut Antique Machinery Museum & Danbury Mineralogical Society; Connecticut Antique Machinery Museum, 31 Kent-Cornwall Rd (Route7); Sat. 9-4; Free; Tour the new mining exhibits; contact John Pawloski, (860) 354-029; Email: [j.a.pawloski@att.net](mailto:j.a.pawloski@att.net)

**June 10-11—MANSFIELD, OH:** Annual show; Mid-Ohio Mineral & Fossil Club; Fairhaven Hall Richland County Fairgrounds, 750 North Home Rd; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; \$5 adults seniors \$4 children 6-16 \$3 under 6 free, scouts in uniform free; Show theme is trilobites. Sunday PaleoJoe will be speaking at 1 pm Expanded kid’s zone. Daily silent auction & hourly door prizes with a grand door prize. Geode breaking & demonstrations; contact Tom Kottyan, (419) 561-3595; Email: [themineralhouse@netzero.net](mailto:themineralhouse@netzero.net); Website: [www.rls.webs.com/](http://www.rls.webs.com/)

**June 24-25—GILSUM, NH:** Annual show; Gilsum Recreation Committee; Gilsum Steam Academy, 640 Route 10; Sat. 8-6, Sun. 8-4; Free, Donations accepted; Gilsum Rock Swap & Mineral Show featuring more than 65 rock & gem dealers, swappers & collectors offering semi-precious stones, gemstones, jewelry, & rocks & minerals of all sorts; contact

Jonathan Bialek c/o Gilsum Recreation Committee; Email: [publicity@gilsum.org](mailto:publicity@gilsum.org); Website: [www.gilsum.org/rockswap/](http://www.gilsum.org/rockswap/)

**July 8-9—SYRACUSE, NY:** Annual show; Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, Inc; Center of Progress Building at the New York State Fairgrounds, 575 State Fair Blvd; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; \$7 Adults, Free for children under 12 & scouts in uniform with paid adult admission; More than 60 retail & wholesale dealers, several demonstrators, displays, & activities for children. You can pick out a geode and watch the dealer crack it. Vendors will be selling minerals, fossils, crystals, jewelry, beads, cabs, and jewelry making supplies; contact Cheryl Brown, Email: [show@syracusegemsociety.com](mailto:show@syracusegemsociety.com); Website: [www.syracusegemsociety.com](http://www.syracusegemsociety.com)

**July 14-16—EDISON, NJ:** Wholesale and retail show; Innovative Gems & Beads Show; NJ Expo Center, 97 Sunfield Ave; Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Adults \$5, Weekend Pass \$10; contact Renu Sawhney, (845) 300-3501; Email: [lbexpo@gmail.com](mailto:lbexpo@gmail.com); Website: [www.lbexpos.com](http://www.lbexpos.com)

**July 15-16—ERIE, PA:** Show & sale; Gem City Rock & Mineral Society; Zem Zem Shriners Banquet & Conference Center, 2525 West 38th St (SE corner 38th St & Zuck Rd); Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$4 Children under 12 free; contact Robert Gallivan, (814) 454-6770; Email: [gallivan427@gmail.com](mailto:gallivan427@gmail.com); Website: [www.gemcityrockclub.org/](http://www.gemcityrockclub.org/)

**July 15-16—FRANKFORT, NY:** Annual show; Joel & Billie Jo Davis; Hometown Minerals; Herkimer County Fairgrounds, 135 Cemetery St; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; \$5; 12 & Under Free; So many vendors! 50 indoor Gem & Mineral Vendors from around the East Coast; over 60 outdoor vendors with more gems & minerals, arts, crafts, service like massages & psychic readings & SO MANY food trucks; contact Billie Jo Muller, (518) 760-1670; Email: [herkgemshow@gmail.com](mailto:herkgemshow@gmail.com); Website: [www.herkgemshow.com](http://www.herkgemshow.com)

**July 22-23—PITTSBURGH, PA:** Annual show; Monongahela Rockhounds; West Mifflin Volunteer Fire Co. #4, Skyview Hall, 660 Noble Drive; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; Free; Featuring dealers of minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry, beads, & lapidary items. Lapidary demonstration. Free mineral identification. Children's activities. Geode cutting. Food & beverages. Door prizes, Free grand prize drawing; contact Frank Albert DeWinter, (724) 472-7392; Email: [fadewinter@ieee.org](mailto:fadewinter@ieee.org)

**July 22-23—ESSEX JUNCTION, VT:** Annual show; Burlington Gem & Mineral Club; Champlain Valley Exposition Expo North Building, 105 Pearl St; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; ADMISSION: Adults \$4 Seniors 60 & over \$3 Kids under 16 FREE with paying adult; 2023 Show Theme: "From Rocks to Gemstones" Quality dealers offering minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry, lapidary equipment & supplies, & books; demonstrations, exhibits, a fish pond for kids, fossil & mineral identification, hourly door prizes, raffle, & silent auctions. Refreshments available; contact Alice Wack; Email: [vtbgmc@gmail.com](mailto:vtbgmc@gmail.com); Website: [www.burlingtongemandmineralclub.org/show.html](http://www.burlingtongemandmineralclub.org/show.html)

**July 29-30—MATTITUCK, NY:** Annual show; Long Island Mineral & Geology Society; Mattituck - Cutchogue Sr/Jr High School, 15125 Main Rd; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; \$6 children under 12 free/ \$8 for a two-day pass; Over 30 dealers of fine gemstones, jewelry, fossils, minerals, meteorites & related items are displayed. The last entry is at 4:30. With a flyer, postcard or

digital entry, entrance is \$5 per person; contact Gene Genova, (631) 848-4985; Email: [limagsadvertising@gmail.com](mailto:limagsadvertising@gmail.com); Website: [limineralandgeology.com/LiMags/Annual\\_Gem\\_Show.html](http://limineralandgeology.com/LiMags/Annual_Gem_Show.html)

**Answers to Geo Lexis**

power \_\_\_\_\_ power line

circuit short circuit

\_\_\_\_\_ r power up

\_\_\_\_\_ e

\_\_\_\_\_ w

\_\_\_\_\_ o

p

circuit circuit overload  
load

Sources and further reading:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/04/12/business/china-sodium-batteries.html>

<https://mag.uchicago.edu/science-medicine/his-current-quest#> (John Goodenough-Now 100)

<https://www.ece.utexas.edu/news/lithium-ion-battery-inventor-introduces-new-technology-fast-charging-noncombustible-batteries>

**Poetry Corner**

**Interview With a Timetraveler**

sea scorpion?  
unintentional historian  
eurypterus remipes  
providing your life's recipe

please explain to me  
eurypterus remipes  
how it feels to be  
venerated in a new world?

same place, but years away  
a prehistoric time traveler  
truly an emblem of the state of Change  
left in the past but found in the future.

- Grace Getman

See more about Eurypterus remipes on the next page





**Eurypterus remipes** is an extinct relative of the modern king crab and sea scorpion. This creature used to swim in shallow seas during the Silurian Age over 400 million years ago. They crawled along the bottom of the shallow, brackish sea then covering much of what is now New York State.

This specimen is from the Susan Sharp Collection (Photo by Judy Cook) official state fossil of New York in 1983. Eurypterids are very rare fossils worldwide; New York State is one of only a few places in the world where they can be commonly found.



New York State Museum (Albany) display of sea scorpion (*Eurypterus remipes*) fossils and model; photo by [Steve Lew on Flickr](#) (noncommercial use permitted with attribution / share alike).

**May 6, 2023 – Trip to the Storage Shed**

Well, the rain date needed to be used, but it turned out great. Now you can see the mysterious place where all our “stuff” is kept – especially signs and display cases.



Mark Grasmeyer inspects his finger as Ross Getman helps to steady the “awesome” sign.

**(Most) Photos by Judy Cook (except Ross’s)**





Photo by Ross Getman



### May 15, 2023 - Club Meeting

#### Knowledge Center – Dave Millis talks about Feldspars

Dave Millis gave a talk on the Feldspars group and their uses. More numerous as a group than quartz. Most feldspars are either orthoclase or plagioclase. Main use is in ceramics, also in computers, and in bone china. As usual, samples were given out. Thanks, Dave!



Photo by Judy Cook

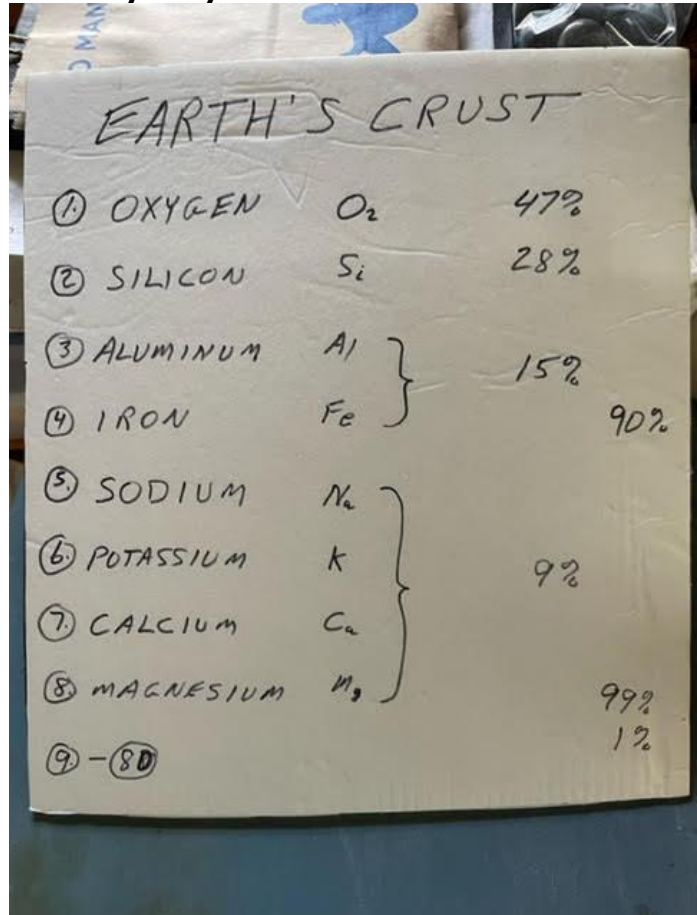


Photo by Dave Millis



Photo by Judy Cook



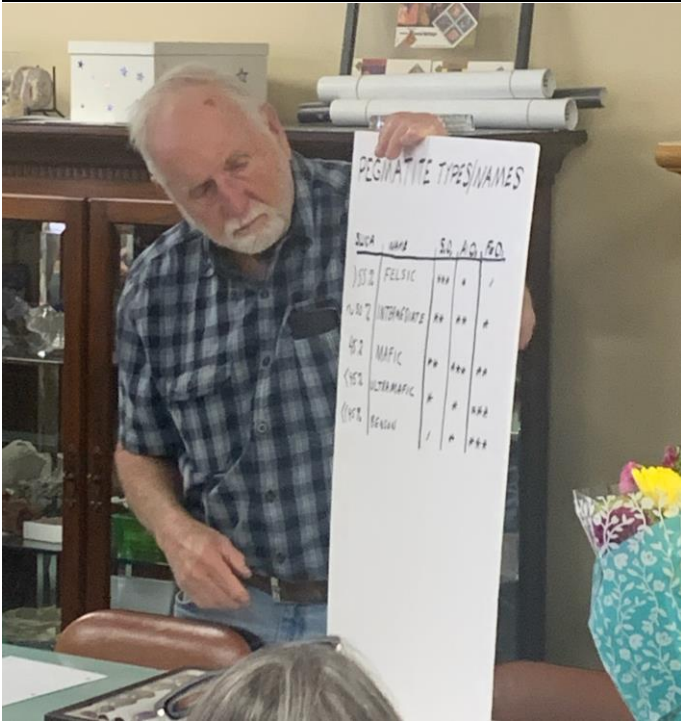


Photo by Matt Klinger

**May's Program – Our Gemworld Show Informational Meeting**

**Club President John Sweeney gave an overview of events from setup on Friday to teardown on Sunday. At the Show John is in charge of Transportation and Security. So, look for him if you volunteer in those areas.**



**Keith Gilmer is in charge of Signs, Labor Ready and Display Cases for the Show. Talk to him about those areas.**

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John Sweeney gave a "spooky" presentation about display cases for the Show.



**Cheryl Brown is the Show Chair. She says her job is "herding cats." Look for her if you don't know where to go or what you're doing.**

Photos by Judy Cook



Dave Arcaro talked about a recent field trip that was taken to Deep Springs Rd.

If you see him at the Show, run away!



# "The Find of the Year!"



Club member **Lee Levesque III** recently dug out some skeletal Herkimer diamond beauties from **Mohawk Valley Mineral Mining** in Sprakers, NY. John Sweeney says they are "the largest, most gorgeous I have ever seen. They are easily the best mineralogical finds in New York State this year."



The left one is "Hercules" and weighs about 35 lbs. On the right is "Medusa."

They are 400 to 500 MILLION years old. He will be exhibiting them in a case at the show and will be on hand to educate people. Photos and videos can be found online: Mohawk Valley Mineral Mining and NY Rockhounds on FB and on our Facebook page.

**Photos by Judy Cook**



This one is "Medusa."



This double-terminated one is Medusa's unnamed baby. It weighs about 7 lbs.





**And, In Other News...****Scientists Identify 240-Million-Year-Old Mystery Ancient Marine Reptile**

By PLOS JUNE 4, 2023

New research reveals that sulfur minerals that make fossils in the Norwegian archipelago are especially well-suited to radiography. X-ray analysis has led to the categorization of a previously-identified marine reptile fossil discovered in Edgeøya, Svalbard. The research was recently published in the journal *PLOS ONE*. The study, conducted by Victoria S. Engelschiøn of the [University of Oslo](https://www.uio.no/) and her team, suggests that this method could reveal fresh insights about ancient life in the future.

The effectiveness of X-ray techniques in investigating well-conserved fossil remains is often dependent on the condition of preservation, which can vary greatly across different sites. Through this study, Engelschiøn and her team showed that fossils from the Middle Triassic Botneheia Formation in Svalbard, Norway, are particularly suitable for radiographic imaging.

<https://scitechdaily.com/scientists-identify-240-million-year-old-mystery-ancient-marine-reptile/>

**Nearly 6 million-year-old 'elephant graveyard' unearthed in Florida**By [Kiley Price](https://www.livescience.com/) LiveScience.com

Archaeologists and volunteers excavate the gomphothere graveyard in northern Florida, covering the fossils in plaster casts to protect them. (Image credit: Florida Museum photo by Kristen Grace, CC BY)

An ancient "elephant graveyard" chock-full of massive bones has been unearthed along what was once a prehistoric river in northern Florida. The fossils of these long-extinct beasts belong to gomphotheres — a relative of modern elephants — and date to about 5.5 million years ago, during the Miocene epoch. <https://www.livescience.com/animals/extinct-species/nearly-6-million-year-old-elephant-graveyard-unearthed-in-florida>

**'Giant' 5,000-year-old tooth was found on California beach. Here's what we know**

San Francisco Chronicle Story by Michael Cabanatuan • May 30



A beachgoer found a prehistoric tooth belonging to a mastodon in Santa Cruz County. The tooth was turned in to a local museum on May 30. © Jennifer Schuh

A man who picked up the 5,000-year-old tooth of an ancient mastodon, an elephant that roamed the Pacific Coast, on a Santa Cruz County beach over the weekend, turned in the odd-looking artifact at a museum Tuesday, ending a two-day search over the media and social media. The man, whose name was not released, delivered the foot-long prehistoric tooth, which might resemble a hunk of gnarled driftwood, to the Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History at about 2:30 p.m., said Wayne Thompson, a paleontologist, science educator and head of the museum's paleontology collection.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/travel/tripideas/giant-5-000-year-old-tooth-was-found-on-california-beach-here-s-what-we-know/ar-AA1bUDOW?ocid=hpmsn&cvid=d86bc12b06524d3fce51a34a196f16c1&ei=41>

**World's Oldest Homo Sapiens Footprint Discovered - And It's 153,000 Years Old**by Andy Corbley May 29, 2023 [goodnewsnetwork.org](https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/)

A 153,000-year-old footprint found in South Africa could be the world's oldest ever made by our species. Older footprints from the *Homo* genus [have been found in Spain](https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/worlds-oldest-homo-sapien-footprint-discovered-and-its-153000-years-old/), but it's not perfectly clear which species they belonged to as they pre-date the earliest evidence of Neanderthals in Europe. <https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/worlds-oldest-homo-sapien-footprint-discovered-and-its-153000-years-old/>



**Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse**  
**PO Box 2801**  
**Syracuse, NY 13220**  
**First Class Mail**  
 Time-Dated Material



[www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)   [www.amfed.org/efmls](http://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 out of doors, 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.

## 2022 – 2023 GMSS Officers/Contacts

**-President: John Sweeney**  
[pres@syracusegemsociety.com](mailto:pres@syracusegemsociety.com)

**-Vice-President: Cathy Patterson**  
[vp@syracusegemsociety.com](mailto:vp@syracusegemsociety.com)

**-Treasurer: Linda Clark**  
[treasurer@syracusegemsociety.com](mailto:treasurer@syracusegemsociety.com)

**-Secretary: Teresa Arnold**  
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