

CRACK 'N CAB



Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, PO Box 2801, Syracuse, NY
web <https://syracusegemsociety.com> Volume 51 Issue 3, March 2021
209 Oswego St (Ponderosa Plaza), Unit 15, Liverpool, NY

GMSS Celebrates 70th Anniversary! *See an Historical Timeline: Pages 5 - 9*

March 15 Meeting, 7:30 pm @ the Clubhouse



**Dick Millis, The
“Rock Doc”
Presents:
“Pegmatites”**

See bonus information – Pg 4

**SEATING IS VERY LIMITED – YOU MUST
CALL KRIS B. 315-487-5202 TO RESERVE
YOUR SEAT**

“New York Mineral of the Month” – Page 5

President's Message

Dick Lyons



Onondaga County just received three times the previous number of virus vaccines for the first week in March. We now have a third vaccine being produced by Johnson & Johnson. President Biden mentioned Tuesday, March 2nd, that there should be enough vaccines for all of us within the next two months. There is hope that we will have a show in July.

The sad news is that both the Buffalo and Che-Hanna Clubs shows scheduled for March have been cancelled.

So far, we have received confirmation from 49 retail and 6 wholesale dealers that they are planning on being in our show. Also, we have heard from 6 metaphysical practitioners who will be attending.

Our next show committee meeting will be on March 29th. We will then have to decide if we will have a show or not.

Dick Lyons

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.

In the absence of Secretary Cathy Patterson at the March Board Meeting, the minutes were half-heartedly and haphazardly recklessly recorded as follows:

The Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse Board of Directors met at the clubhouse in Ponderosa Plaza

Tuesday March 2, 2021. The meeting was somewhat called to order by President **Dick Lyons** at 7:00 PM. Nine members were present. There was no Board of Directors meeting scheduled in February 2021.

Newsletter

Editor Larry Petry reported that since March is the actual month of our 70th anniversary, the Crack 'N Cab would include items related to our history.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mary Davis was unable to attend this meeting. \$21,543 has been collected from returning dealers as of 2/23/21. The Club insurance renewal has been sent in.

Website

Dana Schwartz was unable to attend the meeting due to a meeting conflict. She left the following message:

I am getting ready to upload a lot more changes to the website, and still have so much more to do. I want it to really reflect the club enthusiasm, especially with the Gem Show being tentatively scheduled!!

I need info for the individual web pages for the Club activities.

The Lapidary and Beading pages need current info. I want to add info about the Marie Cole setup, so I need that. I will glean Activities from the newsletter and try to keep it in sync each month.

Thank you to Judy & Steve for pics. I am working those into the site. Also, thank you to Dick for sending me the vendor info. Do you have websites that we can add to their listings? It helps with everyone's SEO if we crosslink websites for people to click.

Thank you to Linda, our former treasurer, for looking up the godaddy info from the Oct payment. I will be calling them to see if we can reclaim www.gmss.us. I do not see that it has been redirected to any other websites yet, so that is a plus. If I am unable to get possession of it, I will contact our Affiliated clubs and ask them to update to our new website domain name.

On a personal note, I got my first vaccine dose Saturday, also very exciting! If anyone is having problems getting scheduled, please let me know and I will help navigate the website for you. I know it can be a trial to deal with government websites. I am stubborn enough to do it!

Thank you again for your trust in me. See everyone at a future meeting!

Mineral Shows

Albany State Museum is currently closed. The Buffalo Club show scheduled for March 20-21 has been cancelled. The Che-Hanna Show in Pennsylvania, scheduled for March 27-28, has been cancelled. The East Coast Show in W. Springfield, MA is still on for 8/13 – 15, so far. **The GMSS annual show is scheduled for July 10-11, 2021 at the Fairgrounds in Syracuse.** This

will also be the annual Eastern Federation Convention. Whether it will be able to go forward is uncertain.

Programs

Vice President **Kris Boronczyk** said reservations will be required for the March meeting with "Rock Doc" Dave Millis. His topic will be "Pegmatites."

Field Trips

Kris Boronczyk, field trip planner says all trips are on hold until a much later date. There was all kinds of talk about Herkimer diamonds locations, Crystal Grove, Paradise Falls, who'll be open, who sold to who, etc.

Lapidary Committee

The workshop is open Wednesdays at the Clubhouse from 1:00-4:00. A fee of \$5.00 is collected for those working on the lapidary equipment. Any club member may come in on these Wednesdays to work on their own beading, jewelry, or related projects also.

Junior Rockhounds

Meetings are suspended until it is safe to meet in person. There was nothing to report on the junior group.

Hospitality

Mary Davis, hospitality coordinator, was unable to attend the meeting. There will be no refreshments served at meetings for the foreseeable future due to COVID.

EFMLS Convention 2021

Various contacts and plans are being made for the Show. The **next Show Committee meeting** will meet at the clubhouse **Monday, March 29, 2021 at 7:00 PM.** **Cheryl Brown**, Show Chairman, will update us on the details of our show preparations.

Facebook

Facebook coordinator **Judy Cook** mentioned **The Museum of the Earth in Ithaca** is having Pay-What-You-Wish on the first weekend of the month, starting with Mar. 6-7.

Other Business

Cheryl Brown read a letter from the **Bead Society** requesting rent reduction due to the pandemic. They currently have about 25 – 30 members. There was discussion about various costs for us. **Kris Boronczyk motioned**, and John Sweeney seconded that *we reduce their rent to \$25/mo. for March through June and return it to \$50/mo. for July through December.* **The motion was approved.**

Cheryl Brown also reported that she and Charlie bought two home ec cabinets with tipping mirrors at an auction. They can be used for demonstrations. She would like to either sell one or get donations to cover costs.

The meeting was eventually adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Petry, reporter on the scene

2021 GemWorld Show

At this moment, the show is moving forward. We are waiting for a contract from the Fairgrounds.

Please join us on Monday, March 29th at 7:00 at the clubhouse to continue the planning process. There are lots of committees and we will need lots of help.

This year is the 70th anniversary of our club so we want to make the show and EFMLS Convention extra special. Your input will be greatly appreciated.

Cheryl Brown

Geo Lexis (Puzzle)
By Anne Fitzgerald

"Interior Design"

March was always a restless time for me in my younger years.

Any lingering snow was too dirty to play in, and the signs of spring seemed millions of miles away. Dormant things still seemed dead, and nothing seemed to be growing or happening. But some big things do start in March, no matter how small their beginnings. For example, the Department of Interior was founded on March 3, 1849.

While the start was slow, we now have a government agency that really does do a lot. The first Secretary of the Interior was Thomas Ewing. In general, he was known for his hard work and intelligence, but from what I could find, he spent most of his time at the Interior Department trying to increase the square footage of his office space. He left the department when President Zachary Taylor died the very next year in 1850.

Ewing's legacy includes bigger office spaces for his predecessors.

(Continued on next page)

The current Department of Interior is responsible for much more than suitable office space and includes the US Geological Survey as one of its bureaus.

Unscramble the following to learn what our current Department of Interior is responsible for. (Thomas Ewing would be proud!)

metalic

grynee

danl

tearw

skarp

filedilw

shif

The solution is on Page 5 of this newsletter.

Upcoming Events

March 15, 2021 - GMSS meeting – 7:30 pm - "The Rock Doc," Dick Millis will be our speaker. His subject is "Pegmatites."

Bonus: Dick mentioned a discovery by a Canadian doctor who stated that the virus causes micro blood clots in the lungs. This in turn causes breathing problems. By taking aspirin, the blood clots will go away. The normal oxygen blood reading for us is around 97 to 98. If it drops to 93 or below, you have the virus. He will be bringing an oximeter which measures the oxygen in your blood. We can all be tested.

You must contact Kris B. at 315-487-5202 to reserve your seat!

March 20-21—BUFFALO, NEW YORK: The annual show has been rescheduled to March 19 – 20, 2022. Contact Jerry Bastedo; Email: jcbastedo@gmail.com; Website: bgsny.org.

March 27-28—WYSOX, PENNSYLVANIA: Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club, Inc.; **The annual show has been cancelled, according to their website.** Contact Bob McGuire, PA; Email: uvbob1942@gmail.com; Website: chehannarocks.com.

March 29, 2021 –NYS Fair Show Committee meeting – 7 pm at the Club House, led by Cheryl Brown.

April 1 – Middleville, NY: Ace of Diamond Mines & Campgrounds opens. 84 Herkimer St. (315) 891-3855. Daily 9-5; Age 8 – Adult \$12, Children 4 -7 \$6. Herkimerdiamonds.com

April – Edison, NJ; This is a quick email to inform you that this year's Mineral, Fossil, Gem & Jewelry Show was moved from April to August 18 – 22 at the NJ Expo Center. The reason is that the NJ Health Department requisitioned the NJ Expo Center and turned it into a COVID-19 vaccination super site. But they will be finished with the venue in July. Email: LowellCarhart@yahoo.com; Website: ny-nj-gemshow.us

April 10-11—JOHNSON CITY, NEW YORK: Annual show; New York Southern Tier Geology Club; Johnson City Senior Center, 30 Brocton St. ; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Adults \$4, free admission for children under 12 when accompanied by a paying adult; Dealers selling various minerals and fossils, jewelry and gemstones, beads and supplies; demonstrations and displays, and show will be held in adherence with regulations related to COVID-19 restrictions - masks must be worn and access may be limited; contact Thomas Ogden, 96 West Main St., Bainbridge, NY 13733, (607) 967-8552; Email: stonecutterton@yahoo.com; Website: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Nonprofit-Organization/New-York-Southern-Tier-Geology-Club-571826199572927/>

April 19, 2021 GMSS meeting - 7:30 pm

May 1—MIDLAND PARK, NEW JERSEY: Annual show; The North Jersey Mineralogical Society; Midland Park High School, 250 Prospect St.; Sat. 10-5; \$5; Outdoor show — COVID safety measure compliant — 25 dealers offering a wide array of rocks, fossils, minerals, and crystals, among other items. RAIN DATE: Sunday, May 2.; contact Jeff Wilson, 14 Beach Dr., MONTAGUE, NJ 07827, (607) 287-9963; Email: buckwood4@yahoo.com; Website: nojms.webs.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.

Answers to Geo Lexis

metallic	climate
grynee	energy
danl	land
tearw	water
skarp	parks
filedilw	wildlife
shif	fish

Sources:

- www.wikipedia.org
- https://www.nps.gov/parkhistory
- https://www.doi.gov/whatwedo

New York Mineral of the Month



Road cut, Cherry Valley, Oswego Co., NY



Grange ore body, ZCA W. Pierrepont Mine, St. Lawrence Co., NY

Pyrite is named from the Greek "pyr," meaning fire. It comes from the sparks created when struck against metal or another hard material. It also has a famous nickname, "Fool's Gold," because of its brassy-yellow color and metallic luster. Sometimes when it is tarnished it can resemble chalcopyrite. But pyrite actually can be found in association with small amounts of gold. It is harder than gold, with a 6 - 6.5 on the Mohs Hardness Scale. It is a member of the Sulfide group, composed of iron and sulfur.

Pyrite is a very common mineral. It is frequently found with all sorts of metal ores. It is common in coal, in slates and other metamorphic rocks; it forms concretions in sedimentary rocks.

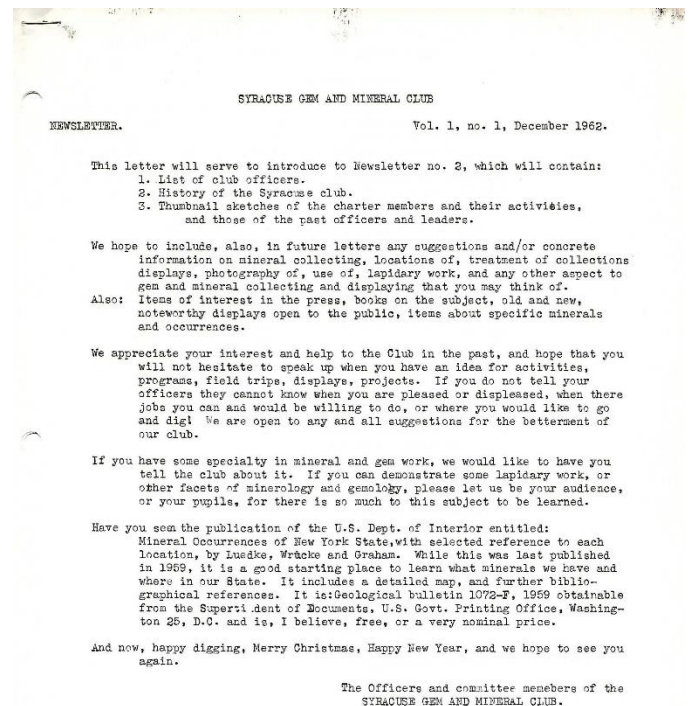
It occasionally is used as a gemstone, and can be fashioned into beads, cut into cabochons, faceted or cut into various shapes.

Pyrite is a relatively easy and abundant metallic mineral to locate. It can be found where there is exposed sedimentary or metamorphic rock. Some may be found in road cuts in Onondaga County, the Pierrepont area mines and quarries in Niagara County.

Some Highlights of GMSS Celebrating 70 Years

by Bob Livingston (as told by others to me or my personal involvement)

-- **March 1951** -- **Richard Sylvester**, an employee of NY Central Railroad, tiring of taking the train to Rochester for mineral club meetings, gathered 6 like-minded folks at *Lyman Hall* at *Syracuse University* and formed our Syracuse mineral club with a slightly different name then.



The Club's first newsletter. Two additional pages contained the names and addresses of the 107 members.

-- **1966** -- By now, in addition to the mineral members of the club, several lapidary-skewed persons had joined and needed a way to sell inventory either bought or self-made as jewelry, etc. Hence the first Syracuse club show was held at the Fairgrounds. Member **Dick Stimer** was a main mover and shaker in getting it launched.

-- **1960s thru the early 1980s** were the heydays of mineral collecting and the club had frequent field trips all over upper NY, New England plus many to Canada including Mt. St Hillare in Quebec. Life member **Ron Waddell** was a regular there with astounding success and collected enough carloads of rough, so that his cataloged micro-minerals, when sold in the late 1990s, netted enough that he was able to buy a brand-new full-size Ford car.

During this same period, **Dick Stimer**, an energetic member/ dealer in our GemWorld show told me he would leave New Process Gear and drive up to St. Lawrence county and load up a full-size station wagon with so many abundant minerals that it was a wonder he never blew a tire from the excess weight. In later years he would stop with a van on way home from Tucson buying inventory, to drive underground in the Lead mines of Pitcher, OK and load up with hundreds of pounds of Galena for sale back East. Those mines have been flooded for years now. Late 60's to early 70's, member **Henry Les**, a renowned Master at Inlays of art in finished stones, had several magazine articles published in *Lapidary Journal*.

Early 1980's -- GemWorld show moved from *Mondales* (sp?) *Auto Auction* building between Nedrow and LaFayette after many years to the *New York State Fairgrounds*. Early on, the show was in the Horticulture Building with green glass in the roof and all the inventory on dealers' tables had a Green kind of "turn off" hue I was told. Shortly after it was moved to Center of Progress building. FYI, in 1983 the ticket price was \$1 for admission.



1988 -- **The Livingstons** joined GMSS and were welcomed with a hearty handshake by the fellow above -- **Ron Waddell**, who made an outstanding first impression. I,

Bob got interested in the hobby earlier, having taken a BOCES silver-smithing course (somewhat like John Sweeney teaches).

1990 -- A newbie, I was asked to be club treasurer. Did it and drove me and Joan crazy to get the last few dollars in the books to balance. Next, I became VP and then GMSS President for the years of '93 & '94. (Worth noting -- Over 70 years, GMSS has been led by approximately 40 dedicated presidents. Our memorable **Gene Ridall**, president twice, was key arm twister to get many to accept the role as President (as well as other offices).

1991 -- Club's *40th anniversary* was celebrated with well-attended four-course dinner at the Presbyterian Hall on West Genny. Dinner was catered by the ladies of the church.

1993 -- Member **Dr. Steven Chamberlain** dove down 2 1/2 miles in sub Alvin to Mid-Atlantic Trench to view Black Smokers and unique Shrimp. The Club was treated to a special a/v talk later.

1995 -- Perhaps the largest attended GMSS meeting ever at the Presbyterian church meeting hall (80+) for the *Finders Keepers* night where all were given a cup of gravels from a Sapphire mine area of Montana. It was some fun and messy night, and lots took home Sapphires.

Late 1990's -- Life members **Harry and Irene Perkins** had the cover story in *Rock & Gem* of the masterful and stunning Squashblossom necklace the two collaborated to produce.

March 18, 2001 - Club's *50th Anniversary Celebration* Held at the church hall on 620 W Genesee Street, we had a very good crowd. Long before Zoom, in a very trying and fairly successful way, we had a live electronic a/v link to **Cathy and Loren Patterson** down in Kissimmee, FL who really wanted to be joined in with us. Thanks go to our techies **Rick Moore** and **Keith Gilmer** who pulled it off. Patterson's were in on everything but the beautiful Golden Anniversary cake we enjoyed. Beforehand, we asked life member **Kay Smith** of Cortland to write a poem for the occasion and she did and read it aloud at the celebration. Everyone attending got to go home with a small vial of floating 23K gold in oil as the club's gift. It was a fun and memorable evening.

Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse, Inc.
1951 50-Year Highlights 2001

- Formed March 2, 1951; Richard Sylvester, first President
- Elizabeth Henes, here tonight, is a Founding Member
 - Joined Eastern Federation in 1952
 - First *GemWorld* show, 1966, at the Fairgrounds
 - Constitution and By Laws; plus Incorporation in 1969 - Bulletin named "*CRACK 'N CAB*" 1970
- 15 Junior members, 1971; 200 members in club at its zenith in 1970s
- 25th Anniversary Dinner, 1976. Speaker: Paul Desautels, Smithsonian Institution
 - Scapolite specimen, donated by club on display at Smithsonian in Washington (1980)
 - Member, Dr. Steven Chamberlain concluded a 36- article series, "The Mineral Message"
- Member, Paul Dunning, elected Region III Vice President in 1977 and EFMLS President 1982
- Special trip to see Bill Pinch mineral collection by Syracuse club members, Fall 1985
- Club celebrates its 40th anniversary with dinner 1991; main speaker was Shirley Greenberg, EFMLS President
- Member Steve Chamberlain down 2 ½ miles in sub Alvin in Mid- Atlantic Trench, 1993
 - 501(C)3 educational non profit tax exempt IRS status received in 1995
 - Won coveted All American Club Award for 1996
- Member Harold Spath Sr. elected EFMLS Region III Vice President
 - Four members held various EFMLS Positions in the 90s
- Proud Hosts of EFMLS Convention and Show in July 1994, again July 2001
 - *Crack 'N Cab* awarded "Best Mini Bulletin in US" in 2000
- Youngest senior member, club President, Gene Ridall, joined our club in the mid '50s

Period: 1990s for most part till present:


Major conventions hosted in July in Syracuse by GMSS: Eastern Federation (Maine to Florida) 1994 and again 2001 (Club's Golden Anniversary). Eastern Federation plus the combined Eastern and American Federation (entire USA) were held 2004 and 2011.

Overseeing the club booth most of the past 30 years has fallen to (4) hard charger members -- first **Cathy and Loren Patterson** and perhaps the past dozen by **Sharon and Bill Viel**, also our truck driver. Show chair going back to the

'90s has been shared by **Gene Ridall** and **Lou Budell** and then right up to last year, **Dick Lyons**. This year it is **Cheryl Brown** if Governor Cuomo lets us have it -- let's hope!

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Syracuse New Times July 5 - 12, 1995 7

Speakers of note at GMSS doings over the years: Paul Desautels of Smithsonian at Club's 25th anniversary dinner. Carl Francis, Curator of Harvard Museum (twice over 20 years) , Shirley Greenberg, President of Eastern 1991, member Steven Chamberlain -- scores of times over 30+ years, Bob Jones, Rock & Gem at 2011 AFMS convention banquet in Syracuse.

GMSS members who since mid '80s rose to be "Eastern Federation Stars:" President of Eastern: **Paul Dunning, Bob Livingston, Carl Miller, Loren Patterson**. Treasurer of Eastern for a decade or so: **Lou Budell**. Secretary: **Cathy Patterson**. Region III VP: **Paul Dunning, Harold Spath and John Baumler**. **Carolyn Les** and **Evelyn Wolfe** whose competitive exhibits at Federation shows gained them top "Masters" trophies.

Coveted awards: GMSS won All American Top Club awards in competition: 1996 and 2011. Personal EFMLS Citation Awards won by members **Paul Dunning** 1987, **Bob Livingston** 2007, **Lou Budell** 2009 and **Carl Miller** 2015. Eastern's Each One Teach One Awards were won by members **John Sweeney** and **Dave Millis** (twice).

Truth: Life members **Jim and Marion Wheaton** used to drive from Williamson out near Rochester each of the days to sell tickets, pretty much just the two of them, at GemWorld thru the 1990s to early 2000's. Incredible. And Jim seemed to never wear out driving a mineral-seeking sledgehammer.

Disclaimer: The foregoing is from one club member of 32 years who collected with **John Davis, Jeff Palin, Lou Budell, Dave Millis, Ron Waddell, Dave Zobkiw, Jim and Marian Wheaton, Dick Stimer** and **Dick Lyons** for starters who gave me club and hobby insights that I gleaned from to include above. Many darn good club members and friends are not included by me as I did not have hobby-related travels or interface is all. Other people will have many more recollections to share I am sure.

Addition: GMSS met at 5 different places over our 70 years: *Lyman Hall at SU*, a church on 173 in the Valley (*Valley Presbyterian*) near the main creek, then about 1980 they moved to the *Presbyterian Church on W Genesee St*, then to *Shoppingtown* about 2004 when the church got sold and finally now where we are in the strip about 4 years ago.

More Recollections:

The earliest show booklet that I have is for the show at the State Fair in 1988. That was the 22nd annual show. Therefore, the first show was in 1967.

Bob Livingston might know when we left for the State Fair from the Mondor's (sp?) Auto Auction location.

Dick Lyons

Back in the 80s when we were at the Center of Progress Building for our show, we had a committee that would get meat trays, rolls, chips, pretzels, soda, coffee, tea and goodies for everyone (vendors and workers) on the Friday setup day. It was good for a socialization/networking break. Of course, times and health regulations have changed. I was young back then and appreciated the older members taking me under their wing and showing me the ropes. But life goes on and jobs relocate us and it's nice to have those memories.

Cynthia Napiorkowski

70 Years of Memories

By Judy Cook

I always know how old the Gem & Mineral Society is as we share the same birth year - 1951.

My dad - **John Bognaski** (pictured below) was a



member way back when. His uncle *Steve Witkowski* and his Navy pal *Ed Buza* were also members. And I do remember my dad talking about **Gene Ridall** and **Dick Stimer**. My brother Bob, 10 months my junior, remembers going to *Syracuse University* for

meetings. I remember thereafter when the meetings took place at *the church on West Seneca Turnpike*. And of course, there were the gem shows in *Nedrow* - always great fun!

My dad took a second shift at General Motors when my mom went back to work at Carrier. We no longer went to the club meetings, but we still continued to collect rocks. We would stop at roadside cutouts; we would collect Herkimer diamonds at the mine. I remember Chittenango Falls for celestite and trips up to northern New York for talc and other stones. Yearly vacations in Canada were very popular with my five younger siblings.

Years passed, I graduated from UD and was writing some free-lance articles when I decided to revisit the club. There I met **Yvonne Liblanc** and before you know it, she had me learning how to polish Mexican and Australian opals and put them in sterling silver settings. We even demonstrated at a show at the *State Fairgrounds*. I ended up traveling a lot with my job and was pulled away in a different direction.

I did not venture back til around 2005. The club has such a nice group of diverse and interesting people. I did do a stint as secretary and as sergeant at arms. I became involved in the Junior Rockhound Kids Club. We would meet on Saturday mornings at a *church parish on West Genesee St*, and the parents were included, and they had just as much enjoyment as their kids. Lots of club members took turns at leading a class - **Tim Hart, Keith Gilmer and his daughter, Carlotta Brown, John Sweeney, Judy Witkin, Jay Tinker, Pat Egolf, Crystal Smith and Yvonne Liblanc, Gene Ridall**. And there were others. And sometimes we would venture out afterwards on a field trip. I remember once we were at Lord's Corners looking for horn coral and it was snowing.

We even took a trip to Lang's Quarry for our state fossil - eurypterids. And then we would join **Tim Hart** on his annual trip with his Central Square students to Crystal Grove. Lots of memories, and those kids loved their fossils and their gems and minerals. **Pat Egolf** even set up a trading of specimens box with other kids clubs. It was like Christmas when a package arrived. Yvonne later led the kids group and then **Rick Moore** created monthly meetings at the clubhouse prior to the meetings.

Carlotta Brown, when she was president, asked me to set up a Learning Center at the show. It offered a different feature and people could sit and relax and listen to a speaker on a topic of their choosing. The show soon moved from the *State Fairgrounds* to the *SRC Arena at OCC*. Eventually when the psychic fair in the building next door to us ceased operation (and they followed us from the Fairgrounds to the SRC Arena)



our club brought in a small contingent of practitioners to demonstrate how gems and minerals are used in the Metaphysical area. **Dick Lyons**, the show chairman would make sure the show was laid out right - no easy feat. He had to contend with electrical, fire codes, manpower, contracts, security .insurance. He has done a remarkable job; the torch is now being passed on to **Cheryl Brown**. The show resonates with all age groups. There is such a wealth of information and activity. There is **John Sweeney** creating a cabochon, **Linda Boronczyk** demonstrating wire wrapping, **Shellie Carder** creating glass beads with fire, so many vendors offering everything from crystal specimens to beautiful jewelry, exhibit cases that are absolutely outstanding including **Joe Kapelewski's** incredible 3-case display of Herkimer diamonds. We have had some great speakers over the years from PRI, State Museum in Albany, and the MOST. And our very special **Len and Susan Sharp** talking about volcanoes, fluorescent minerals, the extinction of the dinosaurs, and **Dave Millis** teaching us how to clean stones and all about quartz. There has

been geode cracking, **Dave Millis** and his free gem tree and pendant class, the sluice, the straw draw. The show is our crowning jewel - where members volunteer and work it, and it is such a joy. The show attracts thousands of customers.

I have grown up alongside the club. Some of my siblings still collect and admire rocks and have curio cabinets full of them, and so do some of my nieces and nephews. My own granddaughter - Addie - was a cartoon character for Halloween - Amethyst. Addie loves gems and minerals, she just turned nine.

Rock hunting is great hobby, it brings one outdoors with nature. And we do have some fun celebrations - the August picnic, the December holiday party, and who does not love an auction!!!

And, In The News...

Asteroid as big as Golden Gate Bridge to pass Earth ahead of spring

By Elizabeth Elizalde, March 4, 2021 | 4:52pm | [Updated](#)
NEW YORK POST

An asteroid as big as the Golden Gate Bridge is expected to pass Earth ahead of the first day of spring. The asteroid, classified by NASA as 231937 (2001 FO32), is about 0.5 to 1 mile in diameter — which is larger than about 97% of asteroids — will zoom past Earth on March 21 at 11:02 a.m. ET, [according to Space Reference](#).

It is expected to come within 1.25 million miles of Earth, which NASA says is “potentially hazardous,” [Earth Sky reported](#).

The agency currently categorizes asteroids as “potentially hazardous” when they are 4.65 million miles of Earth, and larger than 500 feet in diameter. The asteroid will pass at almost 77,000 miles per hour or 21 miles per second — making it one of the fastest space rocks known to pass our planet, according to Earth Sky.

So, should we spring ahead or fall back when it hits?

3 powerful earthquakes hit off New Zealand coast, topped by magnitude 8.1; tsunami threat cancelled for Hawaii

Doyle Rice and **Joel Shannon** USA TODAY Published 9:54 a.m. ET March 4, 2021 Updated 8:18 a.m. ET March 5, 2021

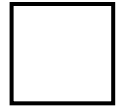
Several powerful earthquakes hit near the coast of New Zealand on Thursday night and Friday morning, prompting tsunami warnings for New Zealand and tsunami watches for Hawaii. The most powerful was an 8.1 quake that hit some 620 miles northeast of New Zealand on Friday morning, the U.S. Geological Survey said. Two earlier quakes registered magnitude 7.4 and magnitude 7.3.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the first quake was centered at a depth of 13 miles under the ocean about 108 miles northeast of the city of Gisborne. Residents of Gisborne reported light to moderate shaking.



Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse
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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

-President: Dick Lyons 315-672-5328
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-Vice-President: Kris Boronczyk 315-487-5202
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-Treasurer: Mary Davis 315-885-4416
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-Secretary: Cathy Patterson
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-Jr Rockhounds:
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