

CRACK 'N CAB



Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, PO Box 2801, Syracuse, NY
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209 Oswego St (Ponderosa Plaza), Unit 15, Liverpool, NY



ANNUAL FALL AUCTION

**Monday, October 21
Doors Open at 6:00**

**John Sweeney will be
our auctioneer!**

Please review the Auction Rules which are posted on Page 6 in this newsletter. You may contact Cheryl Brown or one of the officers if you have any questions. If you are planning to bring something for the auction, there are a couple short forms you need to fill out beforehand. The doors to the clubhouse will be open by 6:00. Please come early to fill out the necessary paperwork.

**6:30 pm: Junior Rockhounds Youth Meeting
Mini Auction with Rick**

President's Message

Cheryl Brown



Hello GMSS Rockhounds!
It's time for our **October Auction!** Come in early to the October meeting to tag all your auction items. The door will be open by 6:00. If this is the first auction you have experienced,

bring cash or a check and come expecting to see some great items to bid on.

Details about the **Holiday Party** will be forth coming. There has been a delay in finalizing the plans.

In the past we brought **unperishable food items** to the Holiday Party. We decided to have folks bring those food items to the November club meeting instead. It will make collecting and distribution much easier if it is done earlier.

Have you paid your **membership dues** yet? If not, please see Donna Dow at the October meeting or send them in to the Post Office box. Thank you!

Congratulations to **John and Linda Clark Sweeney** who reached Life Membership in September! They have been members for 20 years!

GMSS Membership

Adult	\$10.00
Youth	\$5.00
Family	\$15.00
Life	\$5.00

See Donna Dow to renew your membership.

Here are some ways/places that your annual dues help support!

by Bob Livingston

- Subsidized Holiday Party
- Subsidized Picnic
- Subsidized Bus Trip for those occasions when we offer one
- Club Meeting Door Prizes
- Affiliate Member Dues to Eastern Federation and American Federation

- Clearance to attend Wildacres Workshops in North Carolina
- Insurance to protect you and our club on field-collecting trips
- Production & distribution of Monthly Crack 'N Cab Newsletter
- Sample minerals for Juniors classes
- Token fee for outside program speaker(s)
- A little help with Meeting Refreshments

P.S. Membership Dues are due right now and must be paid in order to sell items at the Oct. 21 Auction.

How do members additionally benefit from that portion of our dues that get sent to Eastern Federation?

by Bob Livingston

- Eastern provides affordable insurance our club buys to protect us on field trips. (Quarries usually require it.)
- Library of over 500 video mineral/ lapidary programs are available for us to borrow free of charge
- Spring and Fall class opportunities at Wildacres Workshops in the Blue Ridge of North Carolina
- Monthly newsletter which goes to all 110 clubs making up Eastern. Get ideas or news re other clubs or from authors that can benefit us
- Occasionally there are tie-in field-collecting trips with fellow clubs in state or out. Plus, the American Federation show always has a featured, hosted collecting-field trip
- Opportunity to enter competitive exhibit display contest at the annual show of both Eastern and American Federations
- GMSS Editor can enter Bulletin Editors Contest to be recognized as most of our past editors have been with awards and trophies
- Similar contest for club Webmaster
- Competition for person(s) who teach a lot of individuals. (Dave Millis has won this "Each One Teach One" max of 3 times)
- We get to publicize a designated club member as Rockhound of the Year
- We have the opportunity to nominate persons for Federation offices or committee chairs or members
- Annual meeting and show which GMSS members may attend. (GMSS has provided (4) Presidents of Eastern in the past 35 years.)
- Sometimes a source for program speaker

Secretary's Report
Cathy Patterson

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Oct. 1, 2019 GMSS Clubhouse, 14 members present

Christmas Party Brunch Our Christmas party will be held Sunday December 15, 2019 noon to 3:00 at The Empire Room, NYS Fairgrounds, and will be catered by Daniella's Restaurant. Cost of brunch to be determined. A list of menu items will be available at the October 21 meeting.

A *Holiday Brunch Committee* will be formed to handle details of decorations, table favors, etc.

October 21 Meeting Program will be our annual auction. Please bring cash for your purchases. Club members in good standing may offer 5 items for bid and will keep all but 15%, which goes to the club, of sale. Anyone may offer an unlimited number of items for bid with proceeds going to the club exclusively. *(See complete Auction Rules on Page 6)* Come early! This will be a lively night!

November 18 Meeting ~ Susan Sharp will be speaking about dinosaurs and will be bringing dinosaur items to sell. Also, please bring a non-perishable food item for donation to the local food pantry. This is a club tradition for the month of November.

Treasurer Position ~ Please be advised we are looking to fill the position of Treasurer starting next September.

Annual Audit~ An audit was done of the Treasury books. Everything met with approval and the audit was signed off on.

The 2021 EFMLS (Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies) **Convention Show** will be hosted by our club! Much planning is necessary, and many hands will be needed to make this show the success we know it can be with us as host. Stay tuned starting January 2020 for committee sign ups.

Treasurer's Report ~ The GMSS will send an annual \$250 to the EFMLS Scholarship Fund. Also, money collected at each month's meeting by passing the "kitty" will be added to this amount. Those celebrating a birthday in that month are asked to donate \$1 to the "kitty." Those not wearing their name badge donate 25¢ to the kitty.

Lapidary Committee ~ A successful metalsmith class was held in October at the clubhouse. More classes are being planned by the committee.

Housekeeping Committee ~ A group will form to tidy up the clubhouse soon. We are looking for volunteers to help!

Hospitality for October Meeting – Cathy Patterson and Judy Cook. Please sign up to bring treats at future meetings. It's easy and fun!

Webmaster~ We are in search of a webmaster to take over for Rick Moore who has done a stellar job for a long time and now wishes to retire. Please see Cheryl Brown if you have webmaster skills and wish to get involved. We NEED YOU!

Weather Cancellation of Meeting~ In the "unlikely event of bad weather" having to cancel a meeting please refer to TV and radio stations posting bad weather announcements of many cancellations. More on this in the future.

Cathy Patterson
GMSS Secretary

Geo Lexis (Puzzle)
By Anne Fitzgerald

"Prehistoric Scramble"

Unscramble these letters to form words related to important factors in our understanding of prehistoric times. Hint: All these words were discussed at Dave Millis's September talk "Prehistoric Life." *Answers can be found on another page of this newsletter.*

- | | |
|------------|----------|
| genoxy | resdoiat |
| niaruum | nald |
| tincniotex | necao |
| conriz | sarsuicj |
| tinrew | barnoc |

Upcoming Events

October 19 - 20 Bristol Gem and Mineral Show

Beals Community Center, 240 Stafford Ave., Bristol, CT
Saturday 9:30 am to 6pm, Sunday 10am to 4pm
Admission \$5.00 Adults, \$4.00 Seniors; Kids under 12 free with paid Adult. Bristolgem.org

October 20 - 1:30-5:00 Bead Society Meeting

- The monthly meeting of the Bead Society of Central New York will be held at the GMSS Clubhouse from 1:30 to 5:00. All are welcome! Come see what we are working on and get involved!

October 21 - The Club's Annual Fall Auction

Dust off those specimens, slabs and jewelry items you would like to sell or donate for sale. It's a great opportunity to swap duplicates for new treasures. And, once again, John Sweeney will be our auctioneer! *Complete Auction Rules are on Page 6.*

October 12 and 13 (likely dates) - Walworth Quarry Open House:

The quarry is located at 1200 Atlantic Ave. in Walworth, NY. The schedule will be the same as in past years: Saturday 7:00am until 2:00pm, Sunday from 7:00am until noon. Arrive a bit early each day and meet at the office. Dolomite Products Quarry Supt. Mike Bagne will hold a brief information and safety meeting promptly at 7:00am. Hard hats, boots, safety glasses and long pants are required. Gloves are recommended. Kids are welcome if accompanied at all times by a parent or guardian. They may use bicycle helmets in lieu of hard hats. Collectors are seeking fluorite in vugs in the hard dolostone, but dogtooth calcite, sphalerite, selenite, celestite and galena can also be found. Some fossils can also be found.

October 26 - 27 Rochester Gem, Mineral, Jewelry and Fossil Show & Sale

Total Sports Experience, 435 W. Commercial St., East Rochester, NY
Saturday 10am to 6pm, Sunday 10am to 5pm
Admission \$6.00, 2-day pass \$9.00; Kids 12 & under free with an Adult. rochesterlapidary.org

October 26 - 27 Stamford Mineral Society Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show

Greenwich Civic Center, 90 Harding Rd., Old Greenwich, CT

Saturday 9:30am to 5pm, Sunday 10am to 4pm
Admission \$6.00, Kids under 12 free with Adult.
StamfordMineralSociety.org

November 18 - Jr Rockhounds Meeting 6:30 Full Membership Meeting 7:30

Our speaker is Susan Sharp. Her topic will be "The Amazing and Unique World of Trilobites." See more information on Page 7. ***Also, please bring a non-perishable food item to be distributed to several food pantries.***

December 15 - Holiday Party Brunch at Daniella's at The Empire Room, NYS Fairgrounds. Noon - 4 pm.

Reservations and payment are due by November 18th. ***Please bring a gift to exchange, and an unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots.***

Special Note:
Anyone interested in joining Cathy P and Linda S at the clubhouse, on **Thursday, October 24th, from 6:00-9:00pm?** Bring your own project and materials (beading, wire wrapping, rock-related crafts, etc.). The Lapidary room will be open for those cleared to use the equipment (\$5). The library will be available for use (ID rocks, read a magazine, check out a book, etc.). Bring a snack and a drink for yourself or pick up dinner nearby. Text or call 315-480-8907 to let us know you're coming.

Holiday Party
Brunch at Daniella's at the
Empire Room, State Fair
December 15th Noon - 4 pm
**Reservation and payment due by
November 18th**

Fossils, and a Force to be Reckoned With

By Amanda Lytle

I've held fossils in my hand, and like gazing up at a starry night sky. I never knew these two unrelated things shared a connection and history together with the Earth. Never even thought a little old fossil could represent life on Earth, having taken root and rapidly expanded itself throughout this planet over 500 million years ago, as a true force to be reckoned with. Or in my mind, a collective force of resilience.

Why resilience? In its essence, resilience is a bounce-back. A rebound, a reboot. Sometimes it's about being flexible through dramatic changes in our life events. If there's any big secret the ghost of these creatures archived in stone can speak to me, is nature collectively, in a way, becomes flexible itself, throughout dramatic changes on Earth. Even rebooting with new systems to inhabit radically different environments, acting like a continuing cycle of rebirth after facing adversity. Earth is constantly changing, "rebranding" itself after periodically taking a violent hit from things like asteroid impacts, the planet's own volcanism, and even gets help from a couple of gas giants beyond the asteroid belt, pulling on Earth's orbital path around the sun. It all makes me think of how amazing this force of life is to rebrand, in response to its host planet's own rebranding.

It's the first time I'm appreciating fossils as having unlocked these stories of Earth's history. I appreciate the insight on how they store some chemistry from the once-living organism, revealing what their world was like and when. Including fossils showing certain mass extinctions lining up with the times Earth had been periodically pulled out of her normal ecliptic path... thanks to the gravitational heavyweights Jupiter and Saturn. A result triggering long-term global climate and environmental changes. Yet somehow, this force of nature that rooted itself on this planet, collectively adapts and changes with it. Even with the sacrifice of other generations of

organisms, its resilience shows up with even more new species arising each time.

It's hard for me to not look at a fossil and think life is too delicate. These are the guys that didn't make it. But after learning about a bigger picture, I'm thinking life is tough as heck. How did this force of nature on earth have so much resiliency to reboot after global annihilation from asteroid strikes and volcanism? We're lucky this cycle has let one group of organisms evolve long enough to be aware of the physical universe and even question its own origins. Who knows if the next reboot will be this lucky? I guess I have one of my fossils I'm holding in my hand to thank for keeping me awake at night!

These are my thoughts inspired by our September lecture at our meeting. Although I wrote this to the best of my understanding, errors may still be present.



GMSS Auction Rules:

1. Only club members can sell items. Anyone can bid on auction items.
2. The auction begins at 7:30. If you are selling items, please come early to obtain the auction label forms and set your items up on the auction tables. The doors will be open by 6:00.
3. Each item must have a completed auction label. Sellers, please provide a description form for each item, which will be given to the successful bidder. (Mineral name and location collected)
4. There is an upper limit of five (5) items per seller. There is no maximum limit for the number of items donated to the club.
5. This is not a silent auction. Each bidder will be given a number on a sign to display.
6. Any material with a specified minimum bid that does not sell will be returned to the seller.
7. The club will retain 15% of the selling price. The full selling price of the donated items will be given to the club.
8. The highest bidder wins the auctioned item. Runners will deliver each item to the winning bidder and collect the payment for that item. Bidders need not leave their chairs. **BIDDERS PLEASE BRING PLENTY OF CASH.** Items selling for more than \$15.00 can be purchased by personal check. All other items will be cash only.
9. Sellers cannot bid on their own items.



Photos provided by Jan Woodworth

The **Bead Society of CNY** won first place in the group competition at this year's New York State Fair. Congratulations to the group! Their entry was called "Beadies Bake Shoppe." It featured cakes, cookies, cupcakes and candies - all made out of seed beads. The cakes and cupcakes were boxes where the frosting was the lid. Very clever!

Future Lapidary Classes

We have open workshops to use lapidary equipment on Wednesdays from 12 noon till 3pm for those that have prior experience. We could have more open workshops to be announced.

We are looking for people to sign up for classes in:

- metalsmithing (rings, pendants and bracelets)
- cabochon cutting and polishing
- wire wrapping
- and other arts to be added on.

These will be one- and two-day classes.

Private instructions will be available for those of you that can't make scheduled classes.

Day and evening classes will be available, Monday thru Thursday.

Please call for any questions or interest . We must have at least five people to start a full class .

Joanne Suchon 315-440-4098. Classes starting the end of October. Thank you.



The 2019-2020 Officers were sworn in at the September meeting. From left to right: John Sweeney, Cathy Patterson, Secretary; Linda Clark Sweeney, Treasurer; Cheryl Brown, President; Dick Lyons, Vice President; Larry Petry, Newsletter Editor; and Ed Suchon, Sargent at Arms. Not Pictured: Rick Moore, Webmaster. (Photo by Judy Cook).

Answers to Geo Lexis

- | | |
|------------|----------|
| Oxygen | asteroid |
| Uranium | land |
| extinction | ocean |
| Zircon | Jurassic |
| winter | carbon |

Coming November 18th:

THE AMAZING AND UNIQUE WORLD OF TRILOBITES!

Trilobites were one of the most diverse type of marine invertebrates that lived during the Paleozoic Era. Their extremely important, archetypal fossils are symbolic of an archaic world that once dominated the ancient seas. They persisted for close to 300 million years -- almost twice as long as the dinosaurs -- but what made them so successful? What made them so unique? The sea is now gone, and New York State has become a goldmine for Devonian Trilobite hunters. If you missed out, now is your chance! We will have our complete Trilobite collection, along with our Dinosaur fossil collection on display and for sale on November 18!



**Trilobite, Dalmanites limulus
Silurian, Middleport, NY**

Our speaker will be Susan Sharp, MS, retired earth science and astrobiology teacher, adjunct instructor of astrobiology at SUNY ESF, Woodrow Wilson fellow, Princeton University.



2019 GemWorld Show

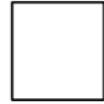


Appreciation Dinner
(photos by Judy Cook)

You can be part of this next year! Many volunteers will be needed for our 2020 show at the NY State Fairgrounds in July. Show Committee meetings will start in January.



Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse
PO Box 2801
Syracuse, New York 13220
First Class Mail
March 2018
 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 out of doors, 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.

2019 – 2020 GMSS Officers/Contacts

-President:

Cheryl Brown 315-708-9122 gmsrocks@gmail.com

-Vice-President:

Dick Lyons 315-672-5328 show@gmss.us

-Treasurer:

Linda Clark Sweeney 315-668-8470 treasurer@gmss.us

-Secretary: Cathy Patterson secretary@gmss.us

Jr Rockhounds & Web:

Rick Moore webmaster@gmss.us

Membership Chair, Hospitality:

Donna Dow secretary@gmss.us

-Sgt at Arms: Ed Suchon sgtatarms@gmss.us

-GemWorld Show Chair:

Dick Lyons 315-672-5328 show@gmss.us

-Club Librarian:

Steve Albro 607-756-2298 library@gmss.us

-Lapidary Committee Contact:

Joanne Suchon 315-440-4098

-Newsletter:

Larry Petry 315-472-9226 editorgmss@gmail.com

-Facebook: Judy Cook

-Photographers Extraordinaire:

Judy Cook, Steve Albro

-Hospitality Committee Chair & Members *We are looking for volunteers* contact Donna Dow at secretary@gmss.us or Sharon Thomson to help