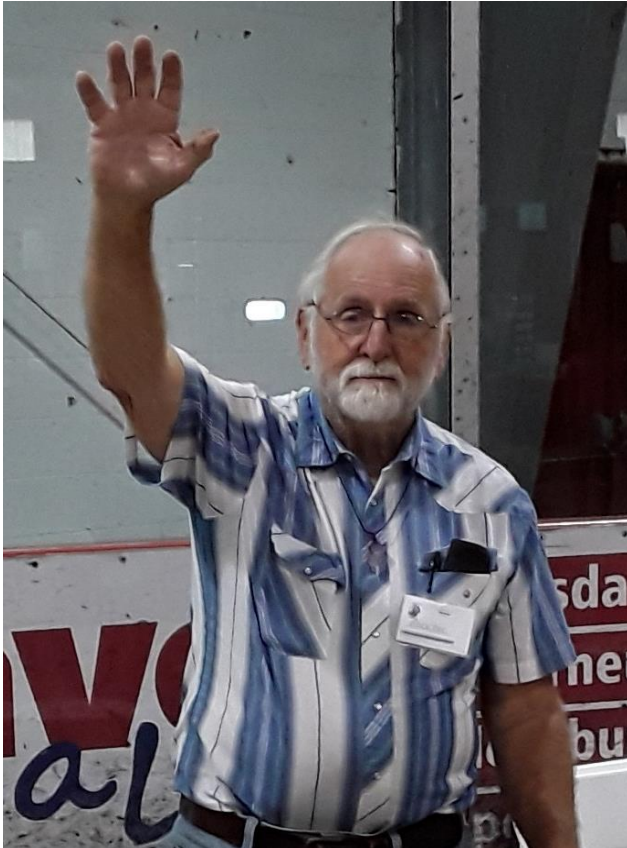


# CRACK 'N CAB



Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, PO Box 2801, Syracuse, NY  
web <http://www.gmss.us> Volume 49 Issue 8, September 2019  
209 Oswego St (Ponderosa Plaza), Unit 15, Liverpool, NY



**September 16  
Meeting  
7:30 pm @ the  
Clubhouse**

**Featured Speaker:  
Dr. Dave Millis,  
“The Rock Doc”**

**Presenting:  
“Prehistoric Life”**

28 kingdoms, 5 mini-mass extinctions,  
5 major-mass extinctions, and the science  
behind it all

**ALSO: “What Did You Do This Summer?”  
Bring in a display for Show and Tell!**

**6:30 pm: Junior Rockhounds Youth Meeting**

*September is Membership month – see more information inside*

## President's Message

Cheryl Brown



Hello GMSS Rockhounds! With summer winding down, we are looking forward to an exciting new year. We will be starting classes in our lapidary area. The **first jewelry-making class** will be held on Saturday, September

21<sup>st</sup> from 11am to 3pm. Club member Jim Guinta will be our instructor. He will be teaching metal piercing and forming using copper metal. The cost is \$45.00 for the tool kit and \$15.00 for instruction. Please reserve your space by paying for the tool kit at the September meeting. Additional classes will be added through the Fall. Stay tuned for details.

The **Holiday Party** will be held on December 15<sup>th</sup> at the Empire Room on the State Fairgrounds.

Brian from Daniella's Restaurant will be our caterer. Mark your calendars. Details will follow.

In 2021, we will be hosting the **EFMLS Conference** during our July GemWorld show.

There will be a number of **committees** formed to help with the planning of the conference. If you would be interested in helping, please see me at the meeting or email me at [pres@gmss.us](mailto:pres@gmss.us) September is our **membership month**. If you did not renew your membership at the picnic, please see Donna Dow at the meeting.

## Secretary's Report

Donna Dow

### Executive Board Meeting Minutes September 3, 2019

We began discussions about the lease agreement on our current location. The owner is being contacted for negotiation on another 3-year lease at this site. More on this in the months to come.

Rental to the Bead Society was discussed with small increase in rental fee approved.

The holiday dinner will be negotiated with Daniella's, date Saturday, December 15th. Details to come.

Speaker for September is Dave Millis. October is the club auction. Susan Sharp will speak in November.



Budget to be presented in October following internal audit before September meeting.

Committees discussed for upcoming EFMLS conference in Syracuse in 2021. The conference is in conjunction with our Gem and Mineral Show in 2021. Topics discussed: speakers, hotels, field trips, meetings, competition in display cases.

Rick Moore reports 6 or more regular junior rockhounds.

Lapidary discussed classes for October, November and December. Details and signs ups for interest in a class at the September meeting.

Internet server updated on 9-9-2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Dow  
GMSS Secretary

## Geo Lexis (Puzzle) By Anne Fitzgerald

### "Spelling B"

Find the incorrect letter in these misspelled minerals.

Circle the incorrect letter.

Create a gem from the incorrect letters.

Boxite

Selennite

Calcyte

Daxite

Answers are on another page of this newsletter.

## Upcoming Events

**September 15 - 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!

**September 16 - Jr Rockhounds Meeting 6:30 Full Membership Meeting 7:30**  
Induction of new officers. Our speaker is Dr. Dave Millis, the Rock Doc. His topic will be "Prehistoric Life."

**September 21 - 11am to 3pm Jewelry-making Class** - Jim Guinta will be teaching a jewelry making class using metal piercing and forming techniques. There is space for 15 students. The cost is \$45 for the kit and \$15 for the class.

**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.  
www.Bristolgem.org

**October 21 - The Club's 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.

**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.  
www.rochesterlapidary.org

**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 Stamford Mineral Society Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show** Eastern 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.  
www.stamfordMineralSociety.org

**November 18 - Jr Rockhounds Meeting 6:30 Full Membership Meeting 7:30**  
Our speaker is Susan Sharp. Her topic will be "Fluorescent Minerals." Also, please bring a non-perishable food item.

**December 15 - Holiday Party Brunch at Daniella's at The Empire Room, NYS Fairgrounds.** *More details will follow.*  
Reservations and payment are due by November 18th. Please bring a gift to exchange and an unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots.

### ***Special Note:***

**Wednesday, September 11 - 9 pm** PBS/WCNY, on NOVA, they will air "Treasures of the Earth: Gems" - "what processes in the depth of the Earth forge beautiful and precious stones?"

## September is membership month

Donna will be collecting dues  
before the meeting

Single adult - \$10.00

Family - \$15.00

Youth - \$5.00

Life Member - \$5.00

## Deep Springs Road Field Trip

The following is a reprint of Dave Arcaro's post on "The Fossil Forum" about our July 27th field trip

"Yesterday I had the pleasure of leading my local club on a visit to Deep Springs Road and Briggs Road. There was a total of 19 members, which included myself and my 2 youngest boys. We met up at our club house at 8 am. I was surprised by the turnout as not many individuals actually got in touch with me to confirm whether they were coming or not, as I had asked. We drove our caravan of 10 vehicles to the site without any members getting separated from the

herd! 🙌🙌 we arrived at DSR about 9:30. I was surprised to see someone there. There was a gentleman who I asked if he happened to be a forum member. He said no, but he has been on the forum browsing. He introduced himself and showed me some Greenops bits and pieces that he had found. He didn't stay very long after we got there even though he stated that he hoped others would be there as he had never hunted this site before. Anyways, after I gave a brief overview of my experience with this site, everyone for a spot, and settled in for some hunting. This group consisted of a few old timers, some with intermediate skills, and some newbies [15 of the members had never been to this site before – Editor]. I went into this with the notion that I wouldn't be keeping my finds unless it was something spectacular. So, I gave away just about everything I found. One almost complete Greenops, and a nearly complete cephalopod were my finds of the day. The cephalopod was poorly preserved but approximately 7 inches long.

"Unfortunately, I didn't think about pics before I gave them away. Pics were the last thing on my mind as the heat was intense. That was the only downfall of this hunt. Everyone was trying to find any scrap of shade they could find to get a reprieve from the heat. That being said, it did seem that most everybody was enjoying finding the various. Brachs, bivalves, gastros, etc... that DSR has to offer. After a couple hours I made the suggestion of heading over to Briggs. The group all seemed ok with hunting another spot that none had been to before. I told them that the prospect of finding plenty of Eldregeops parts and pieces was high there, so they were more than happy to try it out. Once we arrived at Briggs, I set up a canopy that I had brought in case we needed shade. DSR at least has some, Briggs, none at all. Just about everyone found trilo bits there. We stayed until about 2 and then decided to call it a day. I will try to get some pics of the few items that me and my boys brought back but I am having trouble with my phone's

camera. It seems that my pic files are always too big and most times resizing or cropping still does not bring the file size down to the proper size limit. Anyhow, it was a great day despite the heat. It was also nice to help out my club by showing them a couple new sites. Somebody asked if I would become the new fieldtrip coordinator for the club. I don't know, we'll have to see....."



Photos by  
Mairead O'Neil



# We Had a "Rockin'" Picnic at Camillus Erie Canal Park!

Photos by Steve Albro



It got a little "dicey" towards the end!

### Answers to Geo Lexis

Incorrect      Correct

Boxite    Bauxite

Selennite      Selenite

Calcyte    Calcite

Daxite    Dacite

Incorrect Letters spell: Onyx

What, you have never heard of Dacite? (Me neither!)  
Poor neglected Dacite.

According to the National Audubon Society Field Guide to Rocks and Minerals:

"Dacite itself is seldom considered an environment in which to look for mineral specimens; however, dacite bodies do act as the host rock for several types of hydrothermal veins, which are the source of valuable and interesting minerals.

**What I Did This Summer, by Cheryl Brown**

This summer I went on a trip to Ohio to take some metalsmithing classes. It was called Metal Immersion but added to the classes was a Rock Excursion. We went to Flint Ridge in Licking County, Ohio. There were nine ladies and only two of us had ever been rockhounding. Armed with hammers, chisels and bags for carrying out our loot, off we went. As it turned out we didn't need the tools. Other miners had been there ahead of us and they had done the hard work. We sifted through the piles of pieces and found many beautiful specimens.

Flint Ridge is almost eight miles long and runs through Licking and Muskingum counties. The deposit ranges in thickness from about 1 foot to 12 feet. It is well known for its high-quality flint and the area is called the "Great Indian Quarry of Ohio."

In ancient times the flint was used to make arrowheads, tools and ceremonial objects in native cultures. More recently it was used to make millstones and rifle flints. Today it is sought after by collectors and used to make jewelry. It is very colorful and features combinations of red, pink, green, blue, yellow, gray, black, and white due to impurities in the rock.

Flint is a variety of microcrystalline quartz. It resembles chert in that both are granular varieties. The dark siliceous nodules are called flint and the lighter colored deposits are called chert. Chalcedony is a general term which is applied to fibrous varieties of microcrystalline quartz. We found specimens of all three on Flint Ridge.



Nethers' Farm (Photos from <http://mcrocks.com/ptr10-1/StreeterSeptember2010.html>)

After collecting our specimens, we went across the road to Nethers' farm, had our bags weighed and paid 50 cents a pound for what we'd found. My bag weighed 34 pounds, but it wasn't the heaviest. Debbie, the other rockhound, weighed in at 37 pounds. We had

a good laugh! Now it's time to get to work cutting and polishing and making jewelry.



The path into the quarries.



The selection



In the rock pile





# Membership Application 2019 - 2020

## Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse, Inc.

501c3 not-for-profit hobby club

[www.gmss.us](http://www.gmss.us)

For Office Use Only

Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

Please bring this application to a meeting or mail to: **GMSS, P. O. Box 2801, Syracuse, NY 13220**

*Club meetings are the third Monday of the month September to November and January to June at 209 Oswego Road, Liverpool, NY, Suite 14 and 15. (Ponderosa Plaza, behind Heid's)*

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

### Check membership type:

**Individual: \$10.00**  **Renewal** (year of first membership) \_\_\_\_\_

**Youth: \$5.00**  **Life Membership: \$5.00**

**Family Membership\*: \$15.00**

\*A family membership is defined here as partners or single parents with children under 18 years of age as well as grandparents and their grandchildren.

Email address: (please print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

GMSS newsletter by email

newsletter by USPS mail

Your personal information will not be shared with any other group.

Name of Applicant(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

**Family Membership:** Please list minor family members and year of birth (used for insurance purposes and youth activities)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Members of the Gem and Mineral Society are asked to supply refreshments at a monthly meeting and to participate in club activities by serving on various committees. Please check the committee(s) you would like to serve on:**

Newsletter  Education  Library  Field Trip Planning  Hospitality

Annual Show  Program Planning  Publicity  Membership  Youth Activities

Website/Internet  Housekeeping  Clubhouse Maintenance

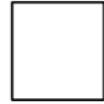
### Are you primarily interested in:

Fossils  Minerals  Jewelry/Lapidary  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Tell us about yourself.** Please list (on the back of this sheet) your related hobbies/skills such as rockhounding or jewelry fabrication you would like the Membership Committee to know about.



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

## GMSS Officers/Contacts

*-President*

Cheryl Brown 315-708-9122 [gmssrocks@gmail.com](mailto:gmssrocks@gmail.com)

*-Vice-President*

Dick Lyons 315-672-5328 [show@gmss.us](mailto:show@gmss.us)

*-Jr Rockhounds & Web*

Rick Moore [webmaster@gmss.us](mailto:webmaster@gmss.us)

*-Treasurer*

Linda Sweeney Clark 315-668-8470 [treasurer@gmss.us](mailto:treasurer@gmss.us)

*-Secretary, Membership Chair, Hospitality*

Donna Dow [secretary@gmss.us](mailto:secretary@gmss.us)

*-Sgt at Arms*

Ed Suchon [sgtatarms@gmss.us](mailto:sgtatarms@gmss.us)

*-GemWorld Show Chair*

Dick Lyons 315-672-5328 [show@gmss.us](mailto:show@gmss.us)

*-Club Library*

Steve Albro 607-756-2298 [library@gmss.us](mailto:library@gmss.us)

*-Lapidary Committee Contact*

Joanne Suchon 315-440-4098

*-Newsletter & Web*

Larry Petry 315-472-9226 [editorgmss@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:secretary@gmss.us) or Sharon Thomson to help