

CRACK 'N CAB



Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, PO Box 2801, Syracuse, NY
web: <https://www.gmss.club> Volume 54 Issue 9, **Sept. 2024**
209 Oswego St (Ponderosa Plaza), Unit 15, Liverpool, NY

Club Meeting – Mon., Sept. 16, 7 PM



Photos by Judy Cook

**“What I
Dug During
Summer
Vacation”**

**Plus:
Silent Auction,
Knowledge
Corner,
Swearing in New
Officers & cake!**



Photo by Judy Cook

**Park Picnic Photos
Pages 8 - 10**

Lapidary Classes Begin September 7, 14, 21

Remembering Bob Jones – Pages 4 & 5

**Junior Rockhounds' Meeting-
Saturday, Sept. 21 – See Page 7**

Hafner's Fall Festival – Page 7

President's Message

John Sweeney



It's September and with the change of seasons comes the beginning of a new year at the Gem and Mineral Society. We'll have new board members and officers. We'll have new programs and speakers. We usually have a lot of new members who signed up at the show. New lapidary classes will be starting, and best of all: members come with renewed vigor and expectations. As this is my last President's message - my two-year term will end

as we swear in the officers at the September meeting - I'd like to help the new officers get up and running with as much help as possible.

When I first joined the club, we met in the meeting room of the parish house of the First Presbyterian Church on E. Genesee Street in Syracuse. We had the room there rented one day a month with a very small storage cubby in the basement thrown in. We set the chairs up every meeting and tore them down and put them back in the racks every night. Board meetings were held in different places, usually a library, or meeting room somewhere. The club was kind of like a modern internet pop-up event. As the club grew in size, we needed more space and took the rather large step of renting space at the Shoppingtown Mall where we could accommodate a larger membership and set up a library, a lapidary shop and a permanent presence. Shoppingtown and its very cheap rents are a thing of the past and we are now firmly ensconced for the last several years at our current home at the Ponderosa Plaza. At the club house we have nine monthly meetings with various speakers and programs as well as auctions, junior rock-hound meetings, lapidary classes and assorted other activities and we house the club's rock collection there. Outside of the clubhouse activities there is a catered Christmas Party in December, a picnic in August, field trips, and let's not forget the newsletter. Besides the Christmas Party, some of the classes and whatever you buy at the auctions, pretty much everything else mentioned here is provided by the club. The club is able to do this primarily through the proceeds from our annual show which is held on the weekend after the fourth of July (Please remember this) As you can see there is a lot going on here and there is a lot you can and need to help with. Matt Klinger (President) Dave Arcaro (Vice President) and Kristen White (Sergeant at Arms) are the new officers responsible for most of organizing the day-to-day club activities while veteran Show Committee chairman Cheryl Brown and Dick Lyons organize the show. Now let's look at what you can help with. Throughout the year we need people to do sign ins at the meetings, help cleaning,

set up audio video for various functions, help write grants, write articles, collate and label the rock collection, provide snacks at the meetings, help with organizing the library, do some remodeling in the meeting space, build UV lights and display case, take out the trash, organize the storage closets and storage area, assist the treasurer, speak in Knowledge Corners, talk about field trips, and the list goes on. As we reach show time a whole variety of show-related tasks are needed in the build-up to throw the largest club-sponsored show in the Northeast, which also happens to make the functioning of our club possible. (When is it? See above and save the date) So, when those sign-up sheets go up or volunteers are asked for, please sign up. We have only nine board members and over 170 members and a lot to do. There's an old saying in volunteer organizations about the 80/20 rule. Out of 100 people in the group 20 are usually the ones doing all the work. Let's break the rule.

I didn't join this club to be President or for that matter to clean the bathrooms; but I've done both. I joined here to make friends, associate with other rocknuts, and to learn lapidary and to collect and go on field trips. But I've made more friends and gained more knowledge working on inane things like loading a truck or setting up and fixing cases, writing a President's message or just setting up for a meeting than any of the scripted meetings along the way. Invest time in the club and it will pay the dividends of friendship and knowledge many times over. Who knew that lime scale remover for faucets and fixtures also worked great on deposits and iron stains on crystals. For more tips, volunteer!

See you at the meeting.

John Sweeney

Secretary's Report

Teresa Arnold

GMSS Board Meeting - September 3, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7PM by President, John Sweeney

President – John Sweeney:

- Swearing in of new officers will be at the September General Meeting, 9/16/24.
- Still working on fluorescent cases – will probably build from scratch for a custom case.
- We need a cleaning committee for the Club – Kip and Cathy did a fantastic job of cleaning up all the rock debris left over from sorting the collection – looking pretty good right now! The Sergeant at Arms will head this committee.

Secretary – Teresa Arnold:

- No General meeting last month, so only minutes approved were August Board Minutes. Cathy Patterson made motion to accept; Cheryl Brown seconded; accepted unanimously.

(Continued on Page 3)

Treasurer – Linda Sweeney:

- July report: Income: \$28,722.23 / Spent: \$25, 980.00
- The excess from the show this year was just over \$26,000.00 the most ever for a show to date!
- Our costs have increased: Storage rent up \$10 per month / rent is up, etc...
- We have already collected over \$3,000.00 from vendors for next year's show.
- We have \$50,000. In a CD ready for turn-over. Motion made to put in a 3-month CD earning 4.25%. Motion made by Cathy Patterson; Seconded by Cheryl Brown; approved unanimously.
- Linda advised that she will only be Treasurer for 2 more years, so we will plan to have someone shadow her to learn the job while there is time.

Vice President – Cathy Patterson:

- September program will consist of swearing in of new Board Members. Bob Livingston will do the honors. Dave Millis will present his finds from recent excursions.
- Dale has postponed her talk on Uranium Glass until October.
- We will welcome new members; provide a small welcome "gift" and give them an overview of the workings of the club.
- Amanda Lytle will present on Antarctica crystals.

Web Mistress – Amanda Lytle:

- Amanda and Jamie Cary gave a presentation on fund raising / grant procurement. They gave a very detailed and well thought out synopsis of how we can navigate the world of fund raising. It was very interesting, and a motion was made to go forward with fundraising efforts, to include, but not limited to, sponsorship; in kind donations; and grants. Motion made by Matt Klinger; seconded by Cathy Patterson; approved unanimously. Thank you both for all your hard work so far and going forward!!

Facebook – Judy Cook (absent)

- There is a lot of new information for the new year.

Membership – Cheryl Brown:

- We gained 15 new members from the show and so far 35 have renewed for the new year.

Jr. Rockhounds – Tracey (absent)

- Meeting on Sat., 9/21 starting at 1PM.

Hospitality:

- Cathy Patterson will bring a cake for October meeting.

Lapidary Committee: Bill Verge

- New class starting September 7th (and 14th and 21st); still room left.

Show – Cheryl Brown

- Hafner's display will take place on October 19th and 20th. We will have the rock sale table this year.

Building / Collection – John Sweeney:

- Grab bars still need to be installed in the bathroom.
- We will convene a cleaning committee.
- We will plan for club house updates: configuration of set up; storage of things not being used (or getting rid of some); hanging the tv's, etc...

Sgt. At Arms – Matt Klinger:

- We need to make the public aware of our existence.

Editor – Lary Petry:

- Deadline for newsletter submissions is Wednesday 9/4 at 11PM.

Respectfully Submitted:
Teresa Arnold, Secretary

Thank You and Good Night!

Cathy Patterson

It has been my absolute pleasure to serve on the GMSS board in different offices several times over many years. Being a continuous member since 1988 I have witnessed many changes in the club and myself as a collector.

Why Did I Join the GMSS?

Early years...

When I first joined in 1988, I was a member of the Lakeshore Mineral Club out of Hannibal, NY in Oswego County. I was "over the moon" excited to discover this small group of rock enthusiasts. The group was very active in rockhound collecting trips and this is where I first learned the tips and tricks of collecting. I asked a million questions and received patient answers. As a newbie I picked up just about anything that met the criteria. Over the years I've become more discerning (picky) about what I brought home. More collecting locations were open back then, I was much younger and could scale hills with a full bucket of rocks easily.

What About The GMSS Community Inspires Me?

Fast Forward...

I discovered the GMSS in the early 1990's at their annual show and about lost my mind with joy! I was dazzled with the knowledge these people had about faceting gemstones, field collecting, and more! They were generally much older than me at the time but knew the rock business. NEVER, EVER DISCOUNT the older generation in this club. They've been in the field, traveled widely, collected much, and are excellent teachers!

(Continued on Page 4)

I was asked to take over editing the newsletter by longtime member Fred Rhue. Back in the day of the ink-screen Gestetner printing machine it was a challenge! Gosh! Didn't I feel proud to be a contributing member of the GMSS? You Bet! What a self-esteem builder that was!

A few years later I served as Secretary and was now on the Board with a responsibility to the club to do its record keeping business. A privilege this was!

I worked at the show Club Booth for many summers loving every minute and becoming friends with the workers there. I so admired the ladies there who had collected for years. Many became lifelong friends. When Gene Ridall said he could see me running the booth in the future I about died of pride! Didn't it feel good to be noticed for my value in the club? Current GMSS members, take note...

I ran the Club Booth for several years and savored being plugged into the "electricity" of meeting and greeting thousands of visitors to our show. I worked my way up to Show Committee Chair and extended my knowledge into the workings of setting up the show, communicating with the vendors, and of course, this all extended my knowledge of how this club works. I was President and Vice President, I served on the national Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies as secretary and traveled the country attending shows.

My much-loved husband, Loren, also jumped on board in the club when we married in 1991 and became a fine gemstone faceter (inspired by Jerry Lomber and Evelyn Wolfe, GMSS members and facetors extraordinaire), served as treasurer, and was an award-winning newsletter editor. He also was VP and President of the Eastern Federation (EFMLS). There are a zillion ways this club has changed our lives for the better! It's the club community that has that power!

What Does the Club Offer Me?

-I have a place where I belong among people who share my passion for minerals, gemstones, jewelry, fossils. We speak the same language!

-I have made lifelong friends in the club.

-I learn something new each month at meetings.

-Using our collected mineral treasures, I can now set up displays that teach/inspire others to do the same. Club members show me how to do this.

-I can take lapidary classes! I can come to rock ID sessions.

-I can have a stellar barn sale of our 30+ years of collected minerals and invite club members!

My next adventure is to learn faceting on Loren's Facetron. I will never live long enough to use up all his faceting rough!

Welcome to New Members in September

Sam Fiore
Louis K. Gilligan
Andrew & Kimberly Phelps

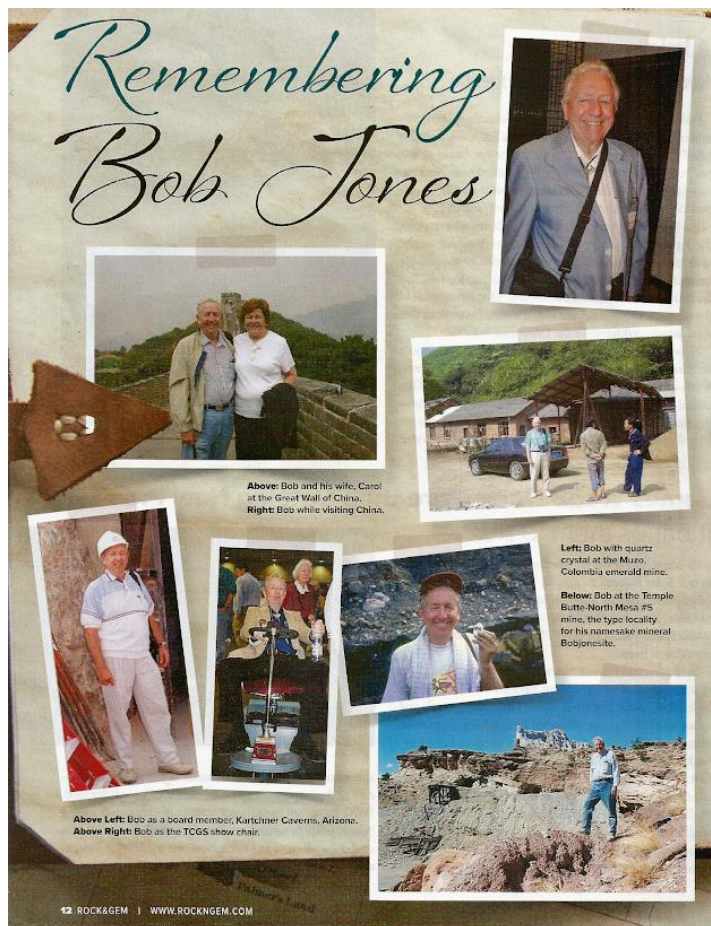
Remembering Bob Jones

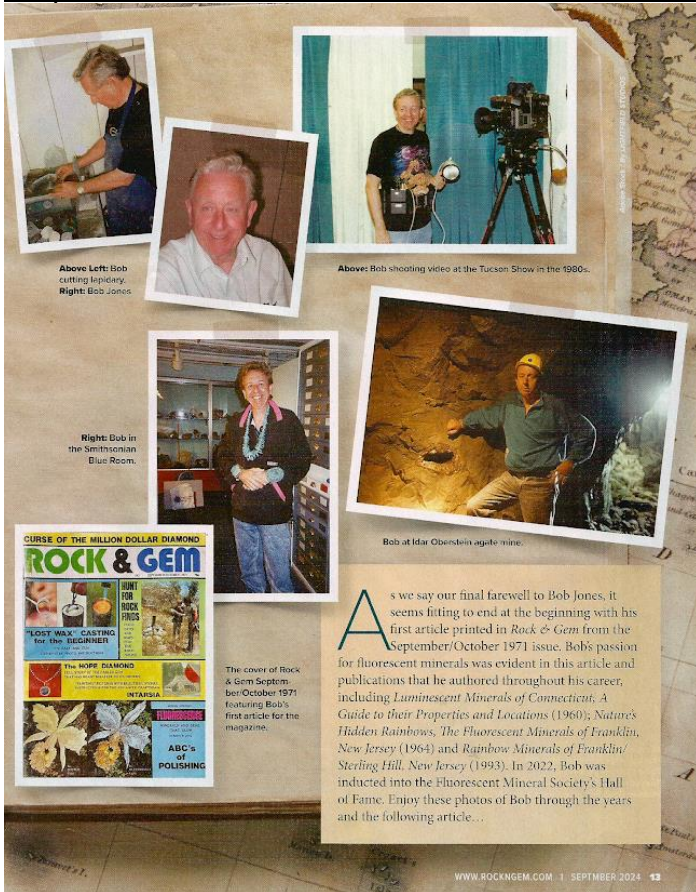
Our club hosted the 2011 conventions of the AFMS & EFMLS in 2011 during our annual show.

Bob Jones was the featured speaker for the Saturday Banquet. I introduced him as president of the club that year.

Bob passed away in late August. Attached are pages from *Rock & Gem* magazine about Bob.

Dick Lyons





Above Left: Bob cutting lapidary.
Right: Bob Jones

Above: Bob shooting video at the Tucson Show in the 1980s.

Right: Bob in the Smithsonian Blue Room.

Bob at Idar-Oberstein agate mine.

The cover of Rock & Gem September/October 1971 featuring Bob's first article for the magazine.

As we say our final farewell to Bob Jones, it seems fitting to end at the beginning with his first article printed in *Rock & Gem* from the September/October 1971 issue. Bob's passion for fluorescent minerals was evident in this article and publications that he authored throughout his career, including *Luminescent Minerals of Connecticut: A Guide to their Properties and Locations* (1960); *Nature's Hidden Rainbows, The Fluorescent Minerals of Franklin, New Jersey* (1964) and *Rainbow Minerals of Franklin, New Jersey* (1993). In 2022, Bob was inducted into the Fluorescent Mineral Society's Hall of Fame. Enjoy these photos of Bob through the years and the following article...

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On The Rocks

BY BOB JONES

MINERAL HONORS & AWARDS

The first mineral column I wrote was published in 1960 and the first article for *Rock & Gem* in 1971. Sixty-four years writing mineral articles, or put another way, two-thirds of my life! What better subject to write about than the mineral awards and honors I've been lucky to receive over the years due to my involvement in the finest hobby in the world.

After moving to Arizona in 1959 I became active in the Mineralogical Society of Arizona, the oldest mineralogical group in Arizona. When it needed a new president in 1964, I stepped up to fill the position. I was inducted into its Hall of Fame in 2014.

June Culp Zeitner, the editor of *Lapidary Journal* for years, founded the National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame in

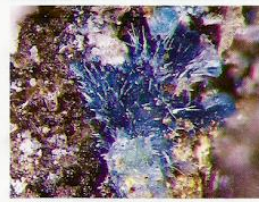
1987. The purpose of creating the Hall of Fame was to recognize excellence in the earth sciences; I was inducted in the minerals category in 1992.

In the early 1990s, a group in Salt Lake City was working with John White at The Smithsonian to produce gem and mineral documentary videos. I knew nothing of this until producer Ray Albrechtson called and asked me to write a script. They soon recruited me to host the documentaries and I traveled all over the world to film interviews at gem mines in Russia, Australia, Maine, California, Oregon, Utah, Arizona and more. The documentaries were shown on PBS and one, *Collecting Earth's Natural Treasures*, was nominated in 1994 for a silver Telly Award.

The crown jewel of mineral honors is



When Bob organized the Faberge exhibits as chairman of the 47th annual TGMs show, he and Carol got to meet Tatiana Faberge, the only living descendant of Peter Carl Faberge.



TOP FAR LEFT: The new mineral Bobjonesite, a vanadium sulfate, was named in his honor for his many contributions to the hobby and science in 2000. Photo courtesy MinDat.



TOP NEAR LEFT: Bob Jones examining the petrified wood log underground at the North Mesa Mine in Utah where Bobjonesite was first found.



LEFT: The Bob Jones Trophy, first awarded in 2023, is for the best mineral exhibit at the Phoenix Heritage Mineral Show.

the prestigious Carnegie Mineralogical Award which was established in 1987 by the Carnegie Museum and is awarded to individuals or groups who make outstanding contributions in mineralogical conservation and education. Imagine my surprise when I learned I was to receive this award at the 1998 TGMs Tucson Show banquet. But this was not the biggest surprise of the evening. I decided to use the opportunity to propose to my wife Carol during the ceremony. It was a memorable night for all to say the least!

I have traveled to California countless times to attend shows and give presentations to the many great mineral clubs and societies in the Golden State. I was pleased to receive the American Federation Scholarship Foundation Honorary Award in 2000 from the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Golden Bear Award in 2008 in recognition of service to these important groups.

One day I got a phone call from Colorado field collector Pat Haynes who was submitting a potential new mineral species to the IMA for approval and wanted to name it after me. Pat had already found several new minerals. This latest unknown was a light blue encrustation he found in a petrified wood log at the North Mesa Group of uranium-vanadium mines in Utah. It dehydrates easily and readily alters so analysis proved challenging, but it was going to be a vanadium sulfate mineral new to science. The

IMA approved Bobjonesite in 2000. It has since been found at a mine in southwestern Colorado and a volcano in the Kamchatka Region of Russia. This helps solidify its status as a valid mineral species. To have a mineral species named after oneself is an honor of the highest order!

As show chairman for the 47th Tucson Gem & Mineral annual show in 2001, I suggested we feature Faberge eggs and other lapidary works by Faberge. We brought in Tatiana Faberge, the only living descendant of Peter Carl Faberge, for one of the largest exhibitions of Faberge lapidary works in recent times. I was also chairman for the 50th Annual TGMs show, the Golden Anniversary. What to do this time? Bring

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Bob with 14-year-old collector Hannah Brodhagen, first winner of the Bob Jones Trophy at the Phoenix Show.



Certificate given to Bob when inducted into the Mineralogical Society of Arizona's Hall of Fame in 2014.



in perhaps the most incredible find of gold artifacts ever: The USS Central America or Ship of Gold. As a result, the show had record attendance that year. I must've done something right because in 2006 they gave me the TGMs Distinguished Service Award.

I was a founding member of the Flag Mineral Foundation in Phoenix, named after A.L. Flag. The group's original goal was to establish a new mineral museum in the Phoenix area. Through its hard work and dedication, a world-class collection of minerals was on permanent display in downtown Phoenix for many years. For my many years of service as a board member, I was given the Flag Foundation Distinguished Service Award in 2012. Then in 2016, I was given the Lifetime Achievement Award for my service to both the Flag Mineral Foundation and the Mineralogical Society of Arizona.

I'm originally from Connecticut and that is where I got my start collecting minerals in

1936. I was active in the New Haven Mineral Club and other groups in the East for years. So, it was a thrill when I learned I was the 2020 honoree for the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies' academic scholarship program.

My first regular column in a mineral magazine was about fluorescent minerals. This was a big interest of mine during my early years in the hobby. In 1964, my book *Nature's Hidden Rainbows* was published, the first book solely about the fluorescent minerals of Franklin, New Jersey. In fact, my very first article published in *Rock & Gem* in 1971 was about fluorescents. I guess it was no surprise when the Fluorescent Mineral Society inducted me into their Hall of Fame in 2022.

My most recent honor came in 2023 when I got a call from longtime collector and local dealer Dana Slaughter. He wanted to create an award for the best competitive exhibit of minerals in the new Phoenix Heritage Mineral Show to be named the Bob Jones Trophy. I enjoy supporting young collectors and could not have been more pleased when the first recipient of the trophy was 14-year-old Hannah Brodhagen of Tucson. She certainly has a bright future!

I'm eternally grateful for all my friends in the mineral hobby and science who have played a significant role in my life and from whom I've learned so much. I've often felt that in the field of mineralogy everyone has a responsibility to leave a positive influence and legacy whether it is intended or not. I never set out to win awards but hope I've inspired *Rock & Gem* readers, mineral collectors, lapidaries, and rockhounds over the years. It's been very gratifying to give back to the hobby which has given me so much in return.

Bob Jones holds the Carnegie Mineralogical Award, is a member of the Rockhound Hall of Fame and has been writing for *Rock & Gem* since its inception.

Geo Lexis (Puzzle) By Anne Fitzgerald

"Dark Oxygen"

Strange things have been found in the very deep ocean including crop circles. "Dark oxygen" sounds like something you might find in a coal mine. You have to dive into the depths of the almost unknown to find dark oxygen.

Scientists have recently started to shed light on a discovery first dismissed in 2013. A scientist named Andrew Sweetman found oxygen twelve thousand feet down in the Pacific Ocean. The oxygen was so deep down that no light could reach to get photosynthesis going. He thought his oxygen sensors were faulty and sent the sensors back several times to the aggravated sensor testers. They breathed a sigh of relief when he stopped sending the samples back and Sweetman finally

accepted the fact that the sensors were fine. Oxygen was present in the deep ocean. Sweetman went back to the scene of the grime a few years later.

He found that the oxygen way down so far at the bottom of the ocean was generated by metals in rock. This meant that plants were not the only things that could generate oxygen. And rocks could be starters of the whole oxygen to life cycle. We may have rocks to thank to life itself. So if you see a rock, say thank you for life and for your ability to solve complex problems and puzzles.

Replace one letter, unscramble and see if you can decipher elements and metals that have now been found on the floor of the Pacific Ocean. Hitting rock bottom? The answers can be found on Page 8 of this newsletter.

Found On the Ocean Floor:

luminumb
ottascium
obpalt
tickle
ronp
remopp

September is Membership Renewal Month

Please stop at the sign-in desk to pay your dues. Please bring cash or a check. You can also mail your dues to the PO box.

Just a reminder – dues have gone up.

Individual - \$15

Family - \$20

Junior - \$10

Life Members - \$5 (Folks who have been members for 20 years)

Thank you!

Lapidary Classes Begin September 7, 14, 21

Duration: 3 Consecutive Saturdays

Location: Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse, 14 Ponderosa Plaza, 208 Oswego St, Liverpool, NY 13088

Enrollment is very limited, so secure your spot today!

To register or for more information, please contact the person below for cost as soon as you can.

Don't miss this opportunity to delve into the art of the lapidary!

Bill Vergé at

b.verge@comcast.net

Upcoming Events

Saturday, Sept. 7 – Field Trip!

There will be a field trip for club members to **Deep Springs Road Quarry for Devonian Fossils**. Any interested members **contact Dave Arcaro at 315-935-3627 by text or phone**. (Presumably he'll give you more information!) We will **meet at the clubhouse at 7:45am and leave promptly by 8:00am**.

September 16 Program

Cathy Patterson

7:00-7:30 - We'll start the evening with the Silent Auction and Learning Center* offerings.

7:30 - We'll have a short business meeting and swear in the new officers for the coming year.

Matt Klinger – President

Dave Arcaro – Vice President

Teresa Arnold – Secretary

Linda Clark – Treasurer

Kristen White - Sergeant at Arms

Larry Petry – award-winning EDITOR

There will be a brief meet and greet of new members then **anyone who has gone on a field collecting trip over the summer or went to a club show are asked to contact me** (Cathy Patterson vp@gmss.club) to get on the talk agenda or offer suggestions. You may tell where you went, what it was like and, best of all, what you found. This is also a great time to let the board members know what kind of programs you would like to see in the upcoming months. ***Dale Shinneman** will talk about [uranium glass](#) at the Learning Center in **October!**

Dave Millis will talk about the history of earth. The books say earth is 4.6 billion years old, but it has to have been older, or it couldn't have been a target for the oversized rock that created the moon! Also, when scientists learned about conduction and convection, the age of the earth came out to just a few million years. That was true for the moon but not the earth. The moon has been frozen for 4.6 billion years but not the earth! Come at 7pm on the 16th and get the whole story.

Sat., SEPT. 21, 2024 – Junior Rockhounds will meet at the clubhouse from 1-2. Topics will include **Caves** with photos from Tonia's trip to Ruby Falls and Mammoth Caves in Kentucky. We will also talk about **Herkimer Diamonds**. If you have a Herkimer, bring it to show and tell.

OCT. 1 – GMSS Board meeting – 7 pm at the Clubhouse. All are invited.

Sat. & Sun., OCT. 19 & 20 – Hafner's Fall Festival – see information below.

OCT. 21 – GMSS meeting – 7:30 pm at the Clubhouse. 7 pm – Silent Auction & Knowledge Corner.

Hafner's Fall Festival

We've been invited once again to Hafner's Garden Center at 7265 Buckley Rd (corner Taft Rd.) on October 19th and 20th from 11 - 4.

It's an opportunity to let the community know who GMSS is and what we are about.

If you would like to join us, **please let Cheryl Brown know (315-708-9122)**. You can be a demonstrator, sell items related to the gem, mineral, and lapidary hobby (as long as you have a tax ID number) or engage children with a simple jewelry making activity. We are also looking for folks to sell rocks like we did at our show. We're open to any other thoughts and ideas since this will be a great advertising opportunity for the club. Come and hang out with us and help tell the community about the gem in their midst – us!



Upcoming Fall Shows:

Sept. 7-8—NEW MILFORD, CT: Annual show; Danbury Mineralogical Society, Inc; New Milford High School, 388 Danbury Rd (Rt 7); Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Admission CASH only: \$5 adults, \$4 seniors & full time-students w/ID. Free admission for kids 11 & under & Scouts in uniform; Hourly door prizes, Grand prize drawn at end of show. Grab bags, club info, display cases, specimen identification; contact Elizabeth A Triano; Email: lizziewriter@comcast.net

Sept. 14-15—PINE ISLAND, NY: (Orange Co.) Annual show; Area 51 Miners; Blue Arrow Farm, 86 Glenwood Rd; Sat. 11-6, Sun. 10-4; \$10 a day for adults, \$5 for kids; The Earthbling Festival a family-friendly event that combines the beauty of geological wonders with the energy of live music! Join us for a day filled with fascinating exhibits, dazzling gemstones, & the rhythmic beats of rock-infused tunes; contact Earthbling Festival, (973) 865-2793; Email: earthblingfestival@gmail.com; Website: www.earthblingfestival.com/

Sept. 21-22—POUGHKEEPSIE, NY: Show & sale; Mid-Hudson Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Inc; Gold's Gym & Family Sports Center, 258 Titusville Rd; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Adults \$6, Seniors/Students \$4, Children Under 12 FREE With Adult; 30 Dealers; Six Free Rocks for Kids at "Glitter Mountain"; Sluice at "Garnet Gulch" for treasure; Earth Science "Scavenger Hunt" for HS Students; Lapidary Demonstrations; Fluorescent Mineral display; "The World of Crystals" - displays by MHVG&MS & Vassar Geology Museum; Wholesale Dealers; contact Linda Wuest, (845) 626-7136; Email: garnet327@hvc.rr.com; Website: www.mhvgms.org

Sept. 28-29—HARRISBURG, PA: Annual show; Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Club; Zembo Shrine Auditorium, 2801 N. Third St; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; Admission: \$6 or \$5 with Postcard/Ad; 58th Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show; contact Brittany Martin; Website: www.rockandmineral.org/

Sept. 28-29—WEST FRIENDSHIP, MD: Annual show; Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore; Howard County Fairgrounds, 2210 Fairgrounds Rd; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$6. Scouts in Uniform & Kids 12 & under admitted free! Join the Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore for a fun, fascinating & family-friendly event featuring gems & minerals from around the world & fun activities for all ages. Award-winning displays of jewelry, gems, minerals, fossils, meteorites & lapidary art. Choice rough, slabs, tools; contact Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore, (410) 294-0200; Email: information@gemcuttersguild.com; Website: www.gemcuttersguild.com/

Oct. 12—BUFFALO, NY: Western NY Earth Science Day, sponsored by Buffalo Geological Society; Heritage Discovery Center, 100 Lee St, Buffalo. Sat. 9-4, FREE admission & parking. Join us to celebrate National Earth Science Week to learn what geologists and earth scientists do; their importance to society; and the various career opportunities that exist. Talk to WNY geologists from numerous companies. Excellent event for students, families, geologists, & anyone interested in geology & the earth & environmental sciences. Food vendor & bathrooms available. Contact Jerry Bastedo, (716) 864-2701; Email: jcbastedo@gmail.com.

Oct. 26-27—FREEPORT, NY: Show & sale; Kaleidoscope Gem Shows; Freeport Recreation Center, 130 E Merrick Rd; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4:30; \$6; \$5 with this notice. Children under 12 free with adult; The show features dealers selling minerals, fossils, gemstones jewelry, & beads. Come see the beautiful displays. Chat with the dealers about their items. You can personally select incredible minerals & fossils as well as handcrafted silver & gold jewelry & also beautiful strands of beads; contact Evelyn Gose, (631) 271-8411; Email: evelyn_gose@kaleidoscopegemshows.com; Website: www.kaleidoscopegemshows.com

Nov. 2-3—OAKS, PA: Annual show; Tuscarora Lapidary Society; The Greater Philadelphia EXPO Center, 100 Station Ave; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$6, Children under 12 years \$1, 2-day adult tickets \$9. Boy/Girl Scouts in uniform with adult Scoutmaster admitted free; 2024 will be the 55th year that Tuscarora Lapidary Society hosts its annual fine gem, jewelry & mineral show Gemarama. This show features many vendors, educational & competitive exhibit cases, a lapidary arts demonstration area & children's activities; contact Linda Green; Email: tuscaroralapidary@gmail.com; Website: www.lapidary.org

Answers to Geo Lexis

umlinumb	aluminum
otpscium	potassium
obpalt	cobalt
tickle	nickel
ronp	iron
remopp	copper

Sources and further reading:

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/scientists-discover-dark-oxygen-on-the-ocean-floor-generated-surprisingly-by-lumps-of-metal-180984778/Shi-En-Kim-7/26/24>

Sweetman, A.K., Smith, A.J., de Jonge, D.S.W. et al. Evidence of dark oxygen production at the abyssal seafloor. Nat. Geosci. 17, 737–739 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41561-024-01480-8>

<https://www.worldatlas.com/oceans/11-strangest-things-found-deep-in-the-pacific-ocean.html>

GMSS Club Picnic Aug. 4 Photo Journal by Judy Cook



Picnic Kudos!

Cathy Patterson

At the August 4 club picnic at Erie Canal Park in Camillus we hosted 50 club members and guests, and a couple BRAND NEW members!

Dave Millis brought his saw for people to cut geodes. With his instruction copper wire rings were made and stone polishing was done also. As always, we thank Dave, aka Rock Doc, for making the trip up from Pennsylvania where he lives! At the close of the picnic, he played the "Dice Game" with hardy souls on that hot day.

Our Grill Master was **Scott Cary** who did wonders cooking up a cooler of burgers, hotdogs, and sausages. Thank you,

Scott! Grilling started around 11:00 and meat was ready about noon.

Mark Grasmeyer ordered the meat and delivered it to the pavilion early Sunday morning. Thank you, Mark!

Steve Albro contacted me about helping with the grilling of the meat, but the grill was small enough only one cook could attend to it. Thank you, Steve, for assembling many dozens of burgers, dogs, and sausages for our hungry crowd!

Dorothy Gilmer provided all the bread buns for the meat. Thank you, Dorothy!

Special thanks also go to Kip **Perkins** for making the beverages, knowing exactly how to set up the serving area, keeping supplies, ice and serving implements stocked and staying until the end for cleanup with **Anne Fitzgerald**. Thank you, Anne, for staying to help when we all were ready to call it a day!

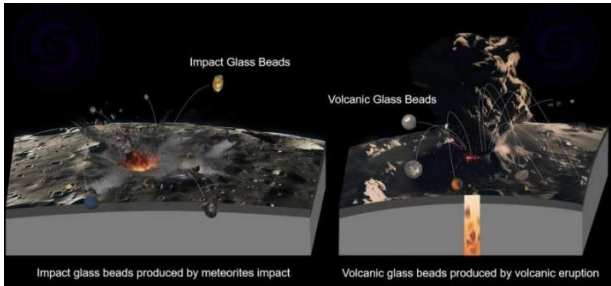
Everyone brought wonderful dishes to share! Desserts were in abundance. Thank you! Everyone had eaten by about 2:00. What we didn't see this year was tailgate selling/swapping and that was my mistake. Next year we'll plan better. We missed several people who couldn't make it this year due to illness and family plans. Thank you all for coming and having some good Rockhound Fun!





And, In Other News**Researchers prove 120-million-year-old volcanism on moon**

by Chinese Academy of Sciences SEPTEMBER 5, 2024



Meteorite impacts and volcanic eruption producing glass beads on the moon. Credit: T. Zhang & Y. Wang

Extensive geologic evidence of ancient volcanic activity can be found on the moon, but how long this volcanism persisted has been unclear. However, Prof. Li Qiuli's Lab at the Institute of Geology and Geophysics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (IGGCAS) has identified three volcanic glass beads from lunar soil samples collected by the Chang'e-5 mission.

Their research shows that the beads were formed 123 ± 15 million years ago (Ma), thus representing the youngest lunar volcanism confirmed by radioisotope dating so far. The study was [published](#) in *Science*.

The radioisotope dating of the three Chang'e-5 volcanic glass beads provides definitive evidence for 120-million-year-old volcanism on the moon. The presence of such young lunar volcanism implies that small celestial bodies, such as the moon, could maintain sufficient heat to sustain internal vitality until a very late stage. These results contribute additional constraints for geophysical models on the thermal history of the moon's deep interior.

<https://phys.org/news/2024-09-million-year-volcanism-moon.html>

Electricity generated by earthquakes might be the secret behind giant gold nuggets

by Monash University SEPTEMBER 2, 2024

Scientists have long been fascinated by the formation of gold nuggets, often found nestled within quartz veins. New research led by Monash University geologists suggests that the process might be even more electrifying than we previously thought—literally. The research team tested a new concept, piezoelectricity. Quartz, the mineral that typically hosts these gold deposits, has a unique property called piezoelectricity—it generates an electric charge when subjected to stress. This phenomenon is already familiar to us in everyday items like quartz watches and BBQ lighters, where a small mechanical force creates a significant voltage. What if the stress from earthquakes could do something similar within the Earth?

To test this hypothesis, researchers conducted an experiment designed to replicate the conditions quartz might experience during an earthquake. They submerged quartz crystals in a gold-rich fluid and applied stress using a motor to simulate the shaking of an earthquake. After the experiment, the quartz

samples were examined under a microscope to see if any gold had been deposited.

The stressed quartz not only electrochemically deposited gold onto its surface, but it also formed and accumulated gold nanoparticles.

[The study](#) is led by Dr. Chris Voisey from the Monash University School of Earth Atmosphere and Environment and will be published in *Nature Geoscience*.

<https://phys.org/news/2024-09-electricity-generated-earthquakes-secret-giant.html>

Biggest diamond in over a century found in Botswana — a whopping 2,492 carats

By Taylor Herzlich Published Aug. 22, 2024

Updated Aug. 22, 2024, 6:11 p.m. ET

The largest diamond in more than a century has been discovered — and experts say the gargantuan gem could be worth more than \$100 million.



The president of Botswana, the [African nation where the precious stone was unearthed by miners](#), showed off the fist-sized diamond — which at 2,492 carats weighs about a pound — at a viewing ceremony this week. Officials said it was too early to value the stone or decide how it would be sold. But

AFP via Getty Images sources close to Lucara, the Canadian mining company that found the diamond in its Karowe Mine, estimated it could be worth more than \$40 million. The Botswana government says the huge 2,492-carat diamond is the second biggest ever discovered in a mine. It's the biggest diamond found since 1905.

<https://nypost.com/2024/08/22/business/biggest-diamond-in-over-a-century-found-in-botswana-at-2492-carats/>

The West Coast Is at Risk: New Megathrust Fault Research Indicates That the Next Big Earthquake Could Be Imminent

BY COLUMBIA CLIMATE SCHOOL AUGUST 28, 2024

Off the southern coasts of Washington, Oregon, and northern California, a 600-mile-long strip exists where the Pacific Ocean floor gradually subducts eastward beneath North America. This area, called the Cascadia Subduction Zone, hosts a megathrust fault, a place where tectonic plates move against each other in a highly dangerous way. The plates can lock up and build stress over wide areas— eventually to be released when they finally lurch against each other.

The result: the world's greatest earthquakes, shaking both seabed and land, and generating tsunamis 100 feet high or more. Such a fault off Japan caused the 2011 Fukushima nuclear disaster. Similar zones exist off Alaska, Chile, and New Zealand, among other places. At Cascadia, big quakes are believed to come roughly every 500 years, give or take a couple hundred. The last occurred in 1700.

<https://scitechdaily.com/the-west-coast-is-at-risk-new-megathrust-fault-research-indicates-that-the-next-big-earthquake-could-be-imminent/>



Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse
PO Box 2801
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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 out of doors, exercise and time with old and new friends.

Meetings – 3rd Monday of the month
 General Meeting @ 7:30 pm
 (NO meetings July, August, December)
 209 Oswego St (Ponderosa Plaza) Unit 14 & 15, Liverpool, NY
 Visitors are ALWAYS welcome!

See online Newsletter <https://gmss.club/crack-n-cab-newsletter>

You can also visit our Facebook Page

Annual Member Dues

Adult \$15 – Family/Couple \$20 – Junior \$10 – Life \$5

If you would like to join or renew membership, download the application form (PDF)

see <https://gmss.club/general-membership#0fb080f6-af56-4921-a12b-17cb93d2cd2c>

You can get a form at a meeting or send requests to: GMSS, PO Bo 2801, Syracuse, NY 13220. We will mail an application/renewal form to you.

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