

Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club, Inc.

P.O. Box 142, Sayre PA 18840-0142



PURPOSE: The club was organized in 1962 in Sayre, PA to assemble for the purpose of studying and collecting rock, mineral, fossil, and shell specimens, and to develop skills in the lapidary arts. We are members of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

DUES are payable to the treasurer BY January 1st of each year. After that date membership will be terminated. Make checks payable to Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club, Inc. as follows: \$12.00 for Family; \$8.00 for Subscribing Patron; \$8.00 for Individual and Junior members (under age 17) not covered by a family membership.

MEETINGS are held at the Sayre High School (on Lockhart Street) at 7:00 PM in the cafeteria, the 2nd Wednesday each month, except JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, and DECEMBER. Those meetings or events (and any changes) will be announced in the newsletter as to event time, date, and location. Also see our website (chehannarocks.com). Visitors are always welcome.

FIELD TRIPS are scheduled regularly from May through September; dates and details to be announced in the Shin-Skinner News.

ARTICLES submitted for publishing should preferably be emailed to the editor using any text (ASCII) format; attempt will be made with whatever is sent. Deadline for submissions to the Shin-Skinner News is the 20th of the month preceding publication. Articles without by-line are written by the editor. Newsletter production is still being worked out, so please don't republish anything you see here.

OFFICERS

President: Bob McGuire uvbob@epix.net
 Vice-Pres: Ted Rieth tjrieth@epix.net
 Secretary: Peggy Huffman Daylilymom1@yahoo.com
 Treasurer & member chair: Trish Benish
patriciabenish@gmail.com
 Immed. Past Pres. Inga Wells Ingawells@yahoo.com

BOARD meetings are held at 6PM on odd-numbered months unless special meetings are called by the president.

BOARD MEMBERS: Sandy Keener, Helen Tracy, & Nancy Welles

Appointed

Publicity: Hazel Remaley 570-888-7544
northridge5@verizon.net
 Editor: David Dick drd@shell.qozzy.net
 Field Trips: Bill Chapman batnpill@empacc.net 585-472-9298
 Juniors: Inga Wells 570-731-4396 Ingawells@yahoo.com
 Webmaster: Bob McGuire uvbob@epix.net
 Membership Chair: Trish Benish

Program Coordinators:

EFMLS Liaison: Fran Sick 570-928-8313
ednfran@epix.net
 Historian: Fran Sick 570-928-8313 ednfran@epix.net
 Meeting Host: Peggy Huffman 570-746-1809
 Show & Dealer Chair: Bob McGuire 570-928-9238
uvbob@epix.net
 Librarians: Bill Dimmick 607-565-7466
 Sunshine Chair: JoAnn McGuire 570-928-9238
uvbob@epix.net

Visit us at our website: <http://www.chehannarocks.com>

We Talk To Each Other - We Help Each Other - We Teach Each Other - We Smile A Lot!

President's Message

by Bob McGuire

Hi members,

Those of you that were at the October meeting/auction, know how great it was. For those that couldn't make it, well you will have to wait for next year.

We had three long tables full of stuff for the auction and with the attendance down, people really got some great deals. A show stopper was when Peggy won the huge piece of garnet crystals. When the runner John Milligan brought it to her, she gave it the biggest hug you could imagine. It is also her birth stone. Thanks to Dave the auctioneer, John the runner, and JoAnn for keeping the records.

The annual Christmas party will be at the Villa Sena in Towanda as last year. Gather at 12:30 and eat at 1:00. Same deal as last year, same food, same gift swap, if you bring a (\$5 to \$10) mineral related gift, you will get a gift.

Next month's meeting is November 11, 6:00 for the board meeting, 7:00 for the regular and the program will be announced on the website as soon as it is finalized. See you there and bring a friend.

*Sunshine Report**by JoAnn McGuire*

We could sure use more sunshine. We've had some flurries, cold, wind and some sun.

Happy Birthday wishes go out to Joy Bourne, November 4th; Carol DeSanto, 7th; Maggie Hessler, 10th; Paul Bloss, 25th; and Ted Rieth, 30th. Hope you all have a nice day.

Happy Anniversary to Bob and JoAnn McGuire as they celebrate 51 years on the 28th. Have a good day.

Hope all of you who have been bothered with colds and flu symptoms are feeling much better and can be out and about. Anyone who is being bothered with any kind of ache or pain or just not feeling well, hope you will get over that and be good as new.

If anyone knows of someone who needs some cheer or a phone call, please let me know and I'll do my best to send a card or contact them on the phone for a chat.

*November Program**by Ted Reith*

The November meeting will present a 40 min IMAX DVD "Dinosaurs: Giants of Patagonia. It explores the history, evolution, and extinction of some of the most captivating animals on earth. Donald Sutherland narrates this amazing documentary, which introduces you to some of the largest dinosaurs that ever existed.

*December Meeting/Party**by Hazel Remaley***ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER at VILLA SENA in TOWANDA**

December 13th is the date set for our annual Christmas party. We will meet at the Villa Sena Restaurant in Towanda at 12:30 and plan to start at 1:00. Menu is basically the same as the last few years, since we all seemed to enjoy the selections. We will have beef and stuffed chicken breast for our entrees, vegetables, and of course, dessert. Cost to you as members in good standing is \$5.00. Your guest will be \$10.00. As usual, the club will provide a gift for each person attending. We also encourage all to participate in a gift exchange. This should be hobby-related and valued in the \$8.00 - \$10.00 range.

I will need your reservation and a check (made payable to CHE-HANNA ROCK & MINERAL CLUB) by December 4th. Call me if you have any questions at 570-888-7544 or email **northridge5@verizon.net**.

Please send your check for your reservation to:

Hazel Remaley
3298 Centerville Rd.
Gillett, PA 16925

Come, join the fun.

IN MEMORIAM: Millie Weed

Millicent M. ("Millie") Weed, 94, died Sunday, October 4, at her home in Moscow, PA, following an illness. She was the widow of Charles R. ("Chuck") Weed, who died in 2000.



She and Chuck were long time Che-Hanna members, joining circa 1978, and were later named Honored Lifetime Members. Her rockhounding interest extended further: a charter member of the Mineralogical Society of Northeast Pennsylvania, she and her husband also founded the Fluorescent Mineral Society of Northeast Pennsylvania. Throughout her life she enjoyed traveling to Alaska and Hawaii, and around the United States, rockhounding along the way. Lest you think rocks were their only interest: they were also avid fishermen.

With a special interest in fluorescent minerals, Millie and Chuck helped Leon Shershen, early on, with the Show "blacklight" display, and Millie sold show tickets, so many years ago. When Chuck passed away, she donated a fluorescent light to the Club. For the past 15 years, Millie still found time to attend every one of our shows.

Millie will be profoundly missed by her family and all who knew her.

The First Mineralogist

The 16th century German, Georgius Agricola (nee Georg Pawer/Bauer) is generally acknowledged as the first mineralogist, although scientific fields were very disorganized at the time. He was educated in many disciplines and held many positions.

His most famous work, "De Re Metallica" (1556), was a systematic account of everything known about mining and ores. [You can download an English version from **Gutenberg.org**: ebook 38015.] President Herbert Hoover, a mining engineer, and his wife, a Latin teacher, published a translation in 1912.

But he also wrote "De Natura Fossilium" or "De Veteribus et Novis Metallis" (1546), about mineral collecting and occurrences. [I could find no free versions; you can find it for sale.]

There was a mineral named for him, Agricolite (bismuth silicate), but the name seems to have been discarded in favor of a synonym, Eulytine. This oversight was corrected in 2011, when a new mineral, Agricolaite (potassium uranyl carbonate), was named in his honor.

References

wikipedia.org: Georgius Agricola;

mindat.org

historyofinformation.com

*Editor's Note**by D. Dick*

You see before you another edition of the Shin-Skinner; I hope you find it a little easier to use than last month's.

Next month, I would like to include some stories about rockhounding (mineral, fossil, lapidary, etc.) revolving around Christmas (or New Year's, or Thanksgiving, or ...). A complete article would be great, but if you just have an outline, I will try to work with that too. With all the members we have and all the years of collecting, we ought to be able to come up with something interesting.

Good Collecting,

David Dick

Nashua, New Hampshire

*Junior Rockhound News**by Inga Wells*

Next meeting: Sunday, November 8 at 2 PM at the AUM Church, 118 S. Main St. Athens.

Program: Corundum and Emeralds; making items to donate to Meals on Wheels for the holidays.

Please read the information regarding the club Christmas Party at Villa Sena in Towanda on Sunday, December 13 at 1 PM. Cost: members in good standing \$5 each, others \$10.

I have a proposal for the junior families and will contact you via Facebook and we can vote on it at the November meeting. There will be no regular meeting in December.
Open Quarry and visit to the Wayne County Gem and Mineral Club.

Jason and Ira Crain joined Duane and me at the Open Quarry at the Dolomite Products in Walworth NY. At 7 AM, there were so many rockhounds at the office to sign in and listen to the safety talk that people were standing outside, waiting to get in to sign in. Wayne County club members brought a lot of donuts and there was coffee brewing and the bathroom had a long line as well. After everyone had checked in, a long convoy of vehicles drove to the dig sites.

The quarry had blasted the north wall earlier in the week and the rain made for some mud puddles. We staked out a spot on one the rock piles. Dolomite was abundant and I brought home many flats that will go into the mini-mine pile. I found a very nice amber-colored dogtooth calcite and some small clear fluorites. I had to admire Ira, he did not tire or get bored as most kids his age will.

We learned some do's and don'ts of being in a quarry and watched as heavy equipment was used in making smaller rocks of big boulders. Duane is not a rockhound and was a good sport. He kept saying he felt like a prisoner cracking up rocks. I can no longer drive long distances and driving at night is not recommended, so I appreciate his time to take me to the dig, for I am a rockhound and very happy digging in rock piles and finding stuff to give to kids.

We attended the Wayne Co club meeting on Friday evening. It was good to see old friends and hear of all of their digging adventures. I met their new editor, Fred Haynes, a retired geologist. The program for the evening was a field trip Show & Tell for the grownups and large group of scouts that had a meeting at the church that evening.

I was very impressed by Fred's display of sulfides. His show-stopper was a fulgurite of melted copper wire. Lightening had struck some wires and melted them into the ground. Here was some melted soil and pebbles with big, flat imbedded shiny copper. I wish I had my camera with me to take a picture.

Club members had many rocks, fossils, and minerals on display and spent a lot of time explaining and answering questions. Bill Chapman had his fluorescent light and specimens in the darkened scout room. There were many free rocks for the kids as well. The Wayne County club has field trips every weekend and most retired club members are always scouting for new places to dig. That is their motto, "Always looking for new places to dig." My bucket list for next year: Ilion Gorge for Travertine and flowstone. They go there many times and it has been decades since Che-Hanna was there. (Ilion is on the way to Herkimer.)

Two Junior families and I had a nice picnic on Sunday, Oct. 11th at King Park in Athens. The kids made their volcanos and lava lamps. I think the hardest part of our club is to find dates when we can get together. Meals are a good opportunity for families to get to know each other and to realize how much everyone has in common.