

*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 & 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 and events (and any changes) will be announced in this newsletter, with location and schedule, as well as on our website <[chehannarocks.com](http://chehannarocks.com)>. Visitors are always welcome.

**FIELD TRIPS** are scheduled regularly from May through September; dates and details will be announced in this newsletter and on the club website.

**ARTICLES** submitted for publishing should be emailed to the editor using any text (ASCII) format; attempt will be made to use whatever is sent. Deadline for submissions to the next Shin-Skinner issue is **24-August-2016**. Anything you send me is likely to get published, so please **clearly mark** what you don't want to see in print. Articles without by-line are written by the editor.

**Permission** is hereby granted Eastern Federation or American Federation member clubs to reprint material contained in the Shin-Skinner News providing proper credit is given to the author, if known, and Shin-Skinner News. If you use anything, an email note to the editor would be appreciated.

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

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## Notable this month...

**August 14<sup>th</sup> - Club picnic at Satterlee**

**August 12-14<sup>th</sup> Springfield Mass ("East Coast") show**

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!

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## President's Note

Hi Rockers, a warm summer for collecting.

Those that missed the last picnic, missed a lot. Dave was geode cutting, doing mica demos, and playing dice. The hot dogs and hamburgs were great as was the outstanding amount and variety of other dishes and goodies covering the tables—left you deciding "just what I can fit in my tummy?"

The next picnic should be just as good so be there and partake. Inga is planning a prospector/beachcomber hat contest. So for now put on your *THINKING* cap and come up with a prize winning /prospector/beachcomber hat.

Still at the same place; bring a dish to pass and your plate and dinner service.

See you at the picnic or at the next club meet in September.

—Bob

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## Sunshine Report

Hope you all are having a nice summer. It's been pretty hot lately with not much rain at all in places. We do need rain.

Don't really know of anyone who is on the sick list. Those that were on, have gotten better and hope that continues.

Had quite a nice crowd at the picnic in July. Had lots of food, did some games, cut some geodes and did some tail-gating.

Happy Birthday to Sam Robison and Jim Moorehead, August 3rd; Virginia Milligan and Faith Toth, 4th; Mary Walter, 9th; Katie Phykitt, 15th; Cindy Karpovich, 24th; Betty Derstine, 26th; and Courtney Shepler, 28th. Hope you all have a great day.

Happy Anniversary to David and April Walter, August 1st; Frank and Suzanne Niver, 19th; and Elmer and Isabel Coolbaugh, 26th. Congratulations and many more.

Hope to see you at the next picnic, August 14th, same place. Bring a dish to pass and your table service.

—JoAnn

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## Directions to Satterlee (August 14<sup>th</sup>)

Che-Hanna picnic directions to the Sayre Area School, Elementary School in Litchfield and their Satterlee Creek Environmental Center, on Cotton Hollow Rd or SR 1056:

From the Valley, Route 220, Route 17 (I-86):

- Take Route 220 south to the Athens exit.
- Take Pine St. to Main St, and turn right at that intersection light.
- Go on Main St. (for 0.9 miles) until you see Gannon Insurance/Sam's Restaurant on the corner of Susquehanna St. to get across the river. This is a left turn. There is the little Teaoga Park and the Athens Clinic opposite the turn. (If you take Route 220 North from points south and turn onto Route 199 at Greens Landing, you'll make a right turn onto Susquehanna St.)
- Once you are over the river, there is a 4 way stop. Go straight, this is Front St. and will become Cotton Hollow Rd. Go 2.2 miles on Front St.
- You'll come to a Y fork, take the left fork toward Windham Center.
- You'll see the school crossing sign after 2.3 miles. The school is on your left.
- At the black top parking lot, behind the school, near the playground, is a dirt Rd that will lead you to the picnic area. Go slow, potholes! This former school facility is between Evans and Hill Rd.
- The next building, going east, is the fire department and you can google Litchfield Township Fire Department as 2902 Cotton Hollow Rd, if nothing else works for your GPS.

Directions from Route 187:

- Nichols, NY to Wysox, PA. The mileage from Route 187 in Windham Center to the school is 5.6 miles. Cotton Hollow Rd is marked with a sign "10 miles to Athens".

My cell phone does not work at SCEC.

—Inga

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*Tidbit: Cleopatra used powdered Lapis for eye shadow*

## Upcoming Meetings

**September** — Dave Millis will make a presentation on "Rock Potpourri", in which he will cover a number of short discussions on a myriad of Club related topics. His master list contained about 2 dozen items; can't wait to see what he chooses. We may need to bring sleeping bags.:-)

**October** — Rock Doc will conduct the annual Club Auction. As always, there should be plenty of biddable items to consider. This is kinda like CheHanna eBay.

As we approach Fall, my objective is to have a speaker for November. I will advise when a connection is made. Folks weren't all that interested in a Spring session (didn't even get a 'no', no return emails), but the closed school eliminated the need. Fallback would be a video; we have several interesting topics on hand.

—Ted

## Tectonic Plates

Tectonic plates are pieces of the Earth's crust that move as more or less solid units. They make up all the continents and underlie all the oceans. Oceanic crust is made of "sima" (for Silicon & Magnesium); continental crust is made of "sial" (for Silicon & Aluminum). The interaction of these plates has caused all our geologic history (except for meteorite impacts, of course).

There are 43 generally recognized plates, divided into major, minor, and micro. Here are the major ones:

- Pacific Plate
- North American Plate
- Eurasian Plate
- African Plate
- Antarctic Plate
- Australian Plate
- Indian Plate
- South American Plate

(Ref: google "List of Tectonic Plates")

## October Bus Trip

Please let Ted Rieth know if you are interested in taking this bus trip with the club. There will be a small fee for club members (about \$10.00) and a different fee for non-members.

Email [tjrieth@epix.net](mailto:tjrieth@epix.net)

**22-Oct-2016 bus Trip** (47 passenger) to Rochester Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show and Sale, stopping at Letchworth State park on the return.

<<https://www.facebook.com/ROCGemShow/?fref=nf>>

Pick Up	7:28 AM	Towanda Hurley's
Pick Up	7:47 AM	Sayre KMart Plaza
Drop Off	10:00 AM	Rochester Main Street Armory
Pick Up	1:30 PM	Rochester Main Street Armory
Drop Off	2:37 PM	Letchworth State Park 1
Pick Up	3:30 PM	Letchworth State Park 1
Drop Off	4:27 PM	Dinner Stop Bath, NY
Pick Up	5:30 PM	Bath, NY
Drop Off	6:30 PM	Sayre KMart Plaza
Drop Off	6:45 PM	Towanda Hurley's

Hopefully, we can get a good estimate of interested persons by our 14Aug picnic so we can place a deposit on the coach.

—Ted

## Blue Calcite from New York

Blue calcite from New York is almost as popular as Herkimer diamonds because of its color. Its properties and locations are described below.

Locations are the Valentine Prospect near Lake Bonaparte and the village of Harrisville, Rose Road near Pitcairn, and along the tracks near Minerva. Other sites may exist but so much material came from Harrisville that any loose rocks should not be considered as sites. Quantities at these 3 sites run from enormous at Harrisville to a curiosity near Minerva.

### **Blue Calcite from NY (continued)**

I once asked Mike Guida, Geologist at Gouverneur Talc, if he knew what caused the blue color and asked him if it could be extra carbon (graphite). He seemed to like my suggestion and on the same day I heard this "non-info" be passed around in our group. A year later I see it in print! That doesn't make it true. My only input is that if you dissolve it in HCl, there's no metal residue and almost no color change to the acid. Residues include ill-formed quartz and peridot. In most cases, Harrisville blue calcite leaves no residue while Pitcairn blue often has both.

The next subject is: Green calcite that turns blue in ultraviolet light. First observed when I transported both blue and green home and left the green outside. It can turn blue in an hour but usually takes a few days. After breaking up the "green" chunks (there was still green inside) I tested it to confirm that using a glass shield to stop ultraviolet also stopped the color change. The next time I observed this was with Pitcairn blue, but this time I deliberately put it in the sun.

The last subject is a description of deep blue color versus acid polishing. Both main sites have deep blue, while Pitcairn has a higher percentage, Harrisville has the most deep blue. Whenever possible, acid polishing calcite improves its appearance without the stigma of being "sprayed" or "dyed". But a curious thing happens with Pitcairn Blue. It often has quartz embedded which sticks out after acid polishing. In Harrisville there might occasionally be Wollastonite sticking out. So we are talking "often versus occasional". In Harrisville, get more blue until you find some without Wollastonite. In Pitcairn, acid polish fast.

Finally, I remind you that Harrisville is now closed; the new "Boss" does not put blue calcite out by the road like "Doc" Taylor did. Rose Road is open for \$5 per person per day and the material I found was near the new road which is very very steep. The Minerva site is a nice one mile walk and limited material.

—*RockDoc, Dave Millis*

### **Junior Rockhound News for August**

We will meet for a picnic on Sunday, August 14 at the Satterlee Creek Environmental Center. We will eat at 1 pm. Please bring a dish to pass and your own table service. Club will provide burgers, hotdogs, rolls, as it did last month.

Dave Millis (Rockdoc) is in charge of the entertainment. I will keep you updated on Facebook regarding times. He has been asked to bring stuff to pan. Last time we did this, he had sandwich bags filled with a mix of dirt, pyrite, garnets and other minerals and we used gold pans to discover what was in the bags. If there is water in the creek, we'll do it there, if not, there will be tubs to use. Be prepared to get a bit wet.

Inga has permission to have a "beach party" for you. You can dig through sand and sift out your treasures. To make it more fun, a beach or prospector's hat contest is on the agenda. Judging will take place after the meal. Kids and adults will be judged separately. There will be some nice prizes and ribbons awarded for most creative and for the funniest for each of them. A special prize of \$20 will be awarded for family participation.

At the July picnic, Dave arrived at 10 am for geode cutting. Ruby and Myles cut their first geodes with the help of Dave and their father. They tried their hands at making things out of mica. Darius and Grace joined them for the meal and for games. Myles found a very interesting fossil in the creek.

For those of you who have never been to SCEC, there's a playground behind the old school and large meadows for running and letting off steam.

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## **Junior Rockhound News (continued)**

I had the Henrich family at my house for soapstone carving and panning for real gold. All three kids did well at panning and found small nuggets and flakes.

We will return to the Athens United Methodist Church on September 18th at 2pm. October will be a busy month and we are hoping to have enough interested club members to schedule a bus trip to the EFMLS show in Rochester on Saturday 10/22 with a stop at Letchworth State Park on the way home. We need to vote on this at the picnic.

—Inga

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## **Editor's Notes**

Astronomically, summer runs to the end of September, but the start of the school year always makes it seem like it ends at Labor Day. So, just a month to go :-)

As you can see, this month we have a contributed article from "Rockdoc". I can't emphasize enough how much I appreciate content anyone gives me for the Shin-Skinner.

I'll do whatever I can to make it easier for you help me make our bulletin better:

- For email, I prefer plain text files ("ASCII"), but can process many formats  
**david.r.dick@graniteur.org**
- You can mail a paper copy of your contribution, even hand-written:  
D Dick / 59 Profile Circle  
Nashua NH 03063-1750
- Email me photos—I can use many formats, or mail the print to me and I'll scan it.
- If you don't have an article written, but you have a collection of details, either on some subject, or for a notice, send me what you have, and I'll try to make it publishable.

Also, I'm still on the look out for pictures of **garden rocks** and for copies of old rock club **bulletins**: Che-Hanna's or any other club's.

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## **Upcoming Shows & Events**

### **August 2016**

#### **12-14... WEST SPRINGFIELD, MA:**

Wholesale/retail show; Martin Zinn Expositions LLC, Eastern States Exposition, Better Living Center; 1305 Memorial Dr; Fri 10-6, Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; \$8 Admission, Children free; 200 Wholesale & Retail Vendors. Speakers, free door prize drawings, mineral ID, free mineral specimens for children. Special Exhibit: Minerales Mexicanos...Peter Megaw Collection; contact Regina Aumente, PO Box 665, Bernalillo, NM 87004, 505-867-0425; e-mail: mzexpos@gmail.com; www.mzexpos.com

#### **19-21... LEBANON, PA:**

"Gem Miner's Jubilee" Wholesale/Retail show; Mid-Atlantic Gem & Mineral Assoc, Lebanon Co Fairgrounds; 80 Rocherty Road; Fri 10-6, Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4; Adults \$6, Children free; Tailgate. Contact Teresa Schwab, PO Box 352, Monrovia, MD 21770, (301)-807-9745; e-mail: beadware@rcn.com; www.gem-show.com

#### **19-21... CANTON, NY:**

Annual show; St. Lawrence Co. Rock & Mineral; Canton, NY Pavilion; 90 Lincoln St.; Sat 9-4:30, Sun 9-3; Free Admission; Friday August 19th at dusk - fluorescent mineral hunt for kids, free, lights provided. Presentation before hand 8:30; contact William deLorraine: 1 Indian Head Trail, Gouverneur NY 13642, (315) 287-4652; e-mail: wdellie@gmail.com; www.stlawerncecountymineralclub.org

## Upcoming Shows & Events (continued)

### September 2016

#### 10-11... NORTH ADAMS, MA:

Annual show; Northern Berkshire Mineral Club, Eagles Hall #310; 515 Curran Highway; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; Admission \$4, Children free; Gems, minerals, crystals, fossil, gifts, door prizes, refreshments, and activities for children; contact Larry Michon, 385 W Main St., North Adams MA 01247, (413)-446-1893; e-mail: lmichon@rcn.com

#### 17-18... HARRISBURG, PA:

51st Annual Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show; Organized by: Central Pennsylvania Rock and Mineral Club; Zembo Shrine Center (2801 North 3rd Street); rockandmineral.org

#### 17-18... POUGHKEEPSIE, NY:

47th Annual Show; Mid-Hudson Valley Gem & Mineral Society; Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4; Gold's Gym Sports Complex, 258 Titusville Rd; dealers, wholesalers, lapidary, fluorescents, exhibits. Adult \$5, Senior \$4, Students \$2. 12 & under w/paying adult FREE.  
<[http://mhvgms.org/annual\\_show/](http://mhvgms.org/annual_show/)>

### October 2016

#### 7-9... MONROEVILLE, PA:

Int'l Gem & Jewelry Show; Convention Ctr, 209 Mall Plz Blvd;

#### 15-16... BRISTOL, CT:

Gem & Mineral Show; Beals Community Ctr, 240 Stafford Ave

#### 22-23... ROCHESTER, NY:

Rochester Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show & Sale and **66th Annual EFMLS Convention** hosted by the Rochester Lapidary Society. Main Street Armory, 900 E Main St. <[www.rochesterlapidary.org/show](http://www.rochesterlapidary.org/show)>. EFMLS Annual Meeting, Friday, October 21.

#### 29... BIGLERVILLE, PA:

Rock Swap & Sale; Central Penn/Franklin County Rock & Mineral Clubs, South Mtn Fairgrounds; 615 Narrows Road; Sat 8-3; Adults/Seniors \$1, Students/Children Free; contact Tom Smith; e-mail: tsmith1012@comcast.net

#### 31... FAIRLESS HILLS, PA:

ULTRAVIOLATION; Rock & Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County show; 9AM-5PM; \$2; First Methodist Church, 840 Trenton Rd; Chuck O'Loughlin 856-663-1383  
ultraviolation@yahoo.com;

### November 2016

#### 5-6... OAKS, PA:

Gemarama 2016; Tuscarora Lapidary Society, Greater Phila. EXPO Center at Oaks, PA; 100 Station Avenue, Hall D; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; Adults \$6, Children \$1; Lapidary/jewelry arts exhibits will feature stones found throughout the USA. And, dealers will offer treasures from all over the world, including gemstones, beads, and minerals. Continuous demonstrations in lapidary/jewelry arts, special activities for children; contact Amy Karash, 1322 Heyward Road, Chesterbrook PA 19087, (484)-431-2757; e-mail: amy.karash@gmail.com;  
[www.Lapidary.org/GEMARAMA/Gemarama.html](http://www.Lapidary.org/GEMARAMA/Gemarama.html)

#### 19-20... LEBANON, PA:

Wholesale and retail show; Mid-Atlantic Gem and Mineral Association, Lebanon Co Fairgrounds and Expo; 80 Rocherty Road; Sat 10-5, Sun 11-4; Adults \$5, Children free; The Gem Miner's Holiday is the Mid-Atlantic's premier Gem, Jewelry, Bead, Mineral, Gift & Craft Show. There is a wholesale Trade section.; contact Teresa Schwab, PO Box 352, Monrovia, MD 21770, (301)-807-9745; beadware@rcn.com; [www.gem-show.com](http://www.gem-show.com)