

*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 **19-December-2016**. Whatever you send me is likely to get published, so please **clearly mark** any part 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.

#### OFFICERS

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

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

#### BOARD MEMBERS:

Bruce Benish, Helen Tracy, Mary Walter

#### APPOINTED

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 Membership Chair: Trish Benish

#### PROGRAM COORDINATORS:

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 Historian: *Vacant*  
 Meeting Host: Peggy Huffman 570-746-1809  
 Show & Dealer Chair: Bob McGuire 570-928-9238  
[uvbob@epix.net](mailto:uvbob@epix.net)  
 Librarian: Bill Dimmick 607-565-7466  
 Sunshine Chair: JoAnn McGuire 570-928-9238  
[uvbob@epix.net](mailto:uvbob@epix.net)

## Notable this month...

**December 11 - Che-Hanna Christmas Party**

**DUES should be paid by January 1<sup>st</sup>**

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 Rockhounds,

The Rochester Show trip was really neat. Had a great turnout and even several members from our sister club in Johnson City.

The show had pretty much everything you would expect. Minerals of all colors, sizes, even man-made. A sculptor was there working on a 5 foot piece, a sluice for the kids, cab making, and more.

The trip home had a few stops at several key points at the park to view really cool scenes. A great 2016 club trip.

The Christmas Dinner is coming up December 11 at the Villa Sena in Towanda. Gather at 12:00-12:30, eat at 1:00. See you there.

Wishing all that attend and all that cannot, a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

—Bob

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### **Sunshine Report**

Hope everyone is doing well with our recent weather and had a very nice Thanksgiving with family and loved ones. The Christmas Holidays will soon be upon us: time for shopping, decorating, and getting things ready. More fun times.

I have a wicked cold: guess I need to give myself some sunshine. LOL Don't know where I got it, but it sure got me. A wine cooler might work wonders.

Please keep Marge Walter in your prayers as she goes through a difficult time right now. She's a strong lady and hopefully is feeling a little better.

Hope to hear that Helen Tracy is doing better. She's still at re-hab in Sayre. Keep her in prayer that she will be able to get around and go home soon. Therapy is rough, but has to be done and hopefully she's improving from that.

Get well to Flossie Lines who had a little bit of a bug. Heard she's doing much better and hope she continues to feel better.

Merry Christmas to all and have a nice holiday.

—JoAnn

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### **Christmas Party**

Merry Christmas to all.

Time to mark your calendars for our biggest social event of the year. Our annual Christmas party will be held at the Villa Sena in Towanda on Dec. 11th. We have used the same restaurant for several years and the menu will be basically the same. Roast beef, stuffed chicken breast, potatoes, vegetable, salad, and dessert. Price to members is \$5.00 and guests \$10.00. Bob and Inga purchased gifts for you from the club while they were at the Syracuse show. We encourage you to participate in the gift exchange. The value of a gift that is hobby related should be between \$8 and \$10.



Plan to gather between noon and 12:30. We will eat at 1:00. Come join the party!!

If you have questions call me 570-888-7544 or 607-857-4805.

See you at the party.

Hazel Remaley  
3298 Centerville Rd.  
Gillett, PA 16925

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## **Minutes of the Club Meeting**

Che-Hanna met Wednesday November 9, 2016 at the Sayre High School at 7 PM. President Bob McGuire led the group in pledging Allegiance To Our Flag.

We have a new member. Bob had Dave Kanare (hope I spelled it right!) introduce himself to the group. Welcome Dave.

October minutes were passed out and accepted on a motion by Trish Benish, seconded by Hazel Remaley.

Treasurer Trish Benish passed copies of the treasurer's report from two months ago. It was filed for audit. The budget for 2017 was accepted on a motion by Hazel R. , seconded by Bruce B.

JoAnn McGuire gave the sunshine report. Happy birthday to November people. Keep Marge Walter in your prayers. Helen Tracy needs a little extra cheer at this time. Bill Dimmick, too.

Inga Wells is traveling (lucky lady), so there was no Pebble Pups report this month.

Our library is in limbo at this point. To keep it or to dissolve it??? There are a lot of good and interesting books in the library. Ideas about what to do with it are appreciated.

March Show. Hazel R. has sent notices to magazines already. Ticket table See Trish B. if you can help. Faith Toth is in charge of the displays. The club trailer needs to be moved. It needs a new home.

Don't forget the Christmas party, December 11th at the Villa Sena in Towanda. \$5 for members, \$10 for guests. Gather at 12 to 12:30, eat at 1P:M.

If you wish to participate in the gift exchange, please bring a rock and mineral related gift in the \$10 range.

Meeting adjourned on a motion by Priscilla Lingenfelter, seconded by Nancy Welles.

After snack break Priscilla and Harry Lingenfelter gave a talk on their trip to Wild Acres this year. Priscilla worked with opals and had some lovely stones she had polished.

Harry had some beautiful examples of the silver wire wrapped jewelry that he had made during class. Very nice.

Ted Rieth showed a National Geographic DVD about a crystal cave found in a zinc mine in Mexico. The crystals were huge, bigger than a man. It was so hot in the cave, that people exploring the cave could only stay a short time. We will see the second half of the DVD at a later time.

—Secretary Peggy Huffman

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## **Editor's Notes**

Producing the Shin-Skinner was once again harder than it needed to be, because of computer problems. You know how more and more people are keeping their cars longer (average age of cars on US roads is 11.5 years)? I'm like that about computers. Because I use Open Source software, and not Windows or Apple, my computers are serviceable long after purchase. It does mean that when they break, they break hard.

Now that we're coming up on gift-giving time, I'd like to remind everyone to **check the packing material** in any of your fancy boxes. We used to keep all the styrofoam, but that's less common now, and not really good for long-term mineral packing. What *is* useful is the shinier foam (polyethylene, I think). While not as soft as the gray polyurethane foam, I think it is more stable over time.

Looking ahead to January and February, if anyone is going to the **Tucson or Quartzsite** shows, I'd love to get some **notes** about them, this time. Pictures would be great, too. I went to Tucson every year for a few years; the abundance of material is breathtaking, it was a nice break from winter in the middle of February, and it's a great tourist area.

Finally, if Santa brings you any great **rockhound-related gifts**, please tell me about them. The wonderful thing about being a rockhound is all the facets the hobby has :-)

—David Dick

## Minutes of the Board Meeting

The Che-Hanna board met Wednesday November 9, 2016 at 6PM at the Sayre High School. Minutes from the October meeting were passed. After corrections, they were accepted on a motion by Trish Benish, seconded by Hazel Remaley.

Treasurer Trish Benish gave the treasurer's report and explained expenses and deposits. The proposed budget for 2017 was presented. These passed on a motion by Hazel Remaley, seconded by Ted Rieth.

At the moment our library is in limbo. Do we keep it or dissolve it? Any good ideas on how to resolve this problem would be appreciated.

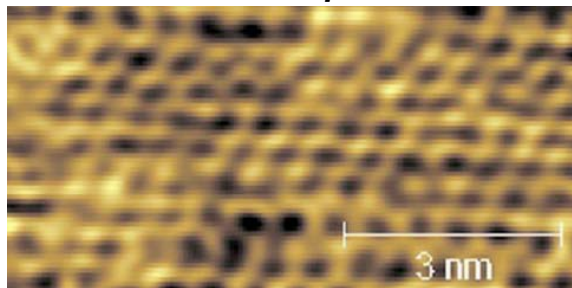
It was decided that a book on dinosaurs would be appropriate in memory of John Dysher. Ted Rieth will look into this. A thank-you note was read from Rick Harrison's family.

Bob McGuire had a tentative floor plan and poster for the show in march.

Meeting adjourned on a motion by Hazel Remaley, seconded by Trish Benish.

—*Secretary Peggy Huffman*

## Benson Mine Field Trip



This summer was my first opportunity to collect inside the mine. I was surprised to find an iron pegmatite. Iron pegmatites are not rare, but they are not common, either. This one was the source of the largest pieces of muscovite that I use in crafts.

The trip was sponsored by the [St Lawrence Rock and Mineral Club](#), a member of EFMLS, and I am also a member. We met in Star Lake and drove into the mine dump area. The pegmatite dump was the first digging site, and only one for me. Of course, I went for mica and Glenn

Weiler gave me some, too. The name of this mica, or lack of a name, or too many names, is the reason I write this report.

A few of its names are: muscovite, paramagnetic muscovite, paramorphic muscovite, ferromuscovite, celadonite, and ferriphenacite. Finally, try this one: pseudomorphic muscovite of a polytypism form. It means it isn't muscovite, but it's a form of mica with crystals identical to muscovite's crystal system, which is monoclinic. I know what you're thinking, but it just looks hexagonal.

So what's really involved? You might not want to know. It depends on two things: how much iron is in the mica, and is it ferric or ferrous? Let's start with both ends: no iron and maximum iron. Pure muscovite has lots of aluminum and no iron. Celadonite has iron instead of aluminum, but also has extra iron substituting for the cations. In this mineral the cations are sodium, potassium, and/or calcium. When iron replaces calcium, it shares just two electrons in the structure; this makes it ferrous iron and the mineral diamagnetic. When iron replaces aluminum, it shares 3 electrons, which makes the mineral paramagnetic.

Confused yet? I am. So, let's continue, anyway. What about in between? The first fact documented is that muscovite can contain up to 10% iron by weight without messing up the crystal lattice which, as mentioned earlier, is monoclinic.

Which is present in the Benson mine? So does the mica at Benson deserve its own name? I think so; I just don't know what to call it. I have 7 choices; pick one!

\*AFM microscopic mica image from

[Nano & Pico Characterization Lab](#)

—*Dr David B Millis*

*Rock Doc*

*10/9/2016*



### Che-Hanna Bus Trip: Rochester EFMLS Show

-Bob McGuire photos



Happy crew on the bus



Carving/sculpting demo



Joe says OMG.....what a deal



Inga's smile signals a good find



Ted eyeing a good deal



refreshment break



Break time



This couple enjoying the show



One stop at the park

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## Upcoming Shows & Events



### February 2017

#### 18-19... ALBANY, NY:

Annual show; New York State Museum; 222 Madison Ave; Sat. 10-5; Admission \$5, Children free; contact Michael Hawkins, 3140 CEC, Albany, NY 12230, (518)-486-2011; e-mail: michael.hawkins@nysed.gov; <http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/>

### March 2017

#### 25-26... WYSOX, PA:

Annual show; Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club Inc., Wysox Volunteer Fire Company, 111 Lake Rd.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; \$3.00, \$1.00, under 8 free; 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Show. Club members exhibits, museum exhibits, lapidary demonstrations, door prizes. Kids scavenger hunt. Kids mini mine. Fluorescent show. Geode-cutting. Dealers selling minerals, fossils, jewelry, lapidary. ; contact Bob McGuire, PA, 570-928-9238; e-mail: [uvbob@epix.net](mailto:uvbob@epix.net); [www.chehannarocks.com](http://www.chehannarocks.com)

### April 2017

#### JOHNSON CITY, NY:

Annual show; New York Southern Tier Geology Club, Johnson City Senior Center; 30 Brocton St.; Sat. 9-5, Sat. 10-4; Admission \$3, Children under 12 free; Dealers of Gemstones, Minerals and Jewelry Displays, UV Light Show, Flint-knapping demo, Gem and mineral identification, Food, Silent Auction and door prizes; contact Thomas Ogden, 96 West Main

St, Bainbridge, NY 13733, (607)-226-2319; e-mail: [stonecuttertom@yahoo.com](mailto:stonecuttertom@yahoo.com)