

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. 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 **20-February-2017**. 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
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 Secretary: Peggy Huffman
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 Treasurer & member chair: Trish Benish
patriciabensh@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:

Bruce Benish, Helen Tracy, Mary Walter

APPOINTED

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 Librarian: Bill Dimmick 607-565-7466
 Sunshine Chair: JoAnn McGuire 570-928-9238
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Notable this month...

Wednesday, February 8 - Che-Hanna Club meeting - Sayre High School cafeteria

Program: DVD video presentation

Sunday, February 19, 2PM - Junior Rockhounds meeting - Athens United Methodist

Program: Metallic Minerals and Dream-Catchers

Sat-Sun, February 18-19 - New York State Museum Show - Albany

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 Note

Greetings Rockhounds,

January is gone and part of February is already used up. Just a little over a month to go and it will be show time.

The dealers are ready, the geodes are ordered and now we have to start getting in the groove to put on a great show again. With everyone doing a little bit each day, it will go so smooth, you will wish it would last all week. But don't fret, it is only setup on Friday and show days Saturday and Sunday with some packing and picking up Sunday after the show closes.

January meeting included show business, regular topics, and the rest of the Huge crystals video. Wish I could have been there to see those monster crystals in real life.

February meeting at 7:00 and check the news letter to see what the topic will be. See you there and bring a friend or two.

—Bob

Sunshine Report

Hope you all are enjoying this nice weather....for the moment, despite the rain. We've had quite a lot and can you imagine if it were snow? We've had temperatures in the 40's for about a week. Seems good, but don't know what's coming. We have February and March to get through yet.

Not much going on; I don't really know of those that aren't feeling so good. So, I'll just say to all who are under the weather or having a bad day, hope you feel better soon. If you know of anyone who needs a card, please let me know and I'll be sure to get one out.

I heard that Helen Tracy is back at home now and hopefully she will be doing really well. Hope to see her soon.

Lillian Warren is now a member of our club, thanks to Inga. Hope she's feeling much better.

Inga and Duane went to visit Barb Segar and gave her a gem tree. Said she's doing well and sends greetings to all.

See you at the next meeting. Show time is fast approaching.

—JoAnn

Mini-Mine Needs ...

Hello Che-Hanna members,

This is my annual appeal for donations to be used in our popular mini-mine at the show.

I have only 1/2 bucket of stuff so far. We usually need 2 buckets to keep the mine operating and interesting. Your donations need to be child-friendly and have no sharp edges.

I have used up my supply over the years and since I rarely make it to a dig have not been able to replenish my stash of stuff for that purpose.

We can use fossils, shells, tumbled stones, sharks teeth, minerals, and other things that kids would like to find in their load of sand.

Thank you to Dave Millis, he donated a box of stuff before he left for Florida.

Thank you to Gloria Dick; she has some pyrite waiting for me to be picked up at her home.

Please call my cell phone 607-425-7426 if you can help to make the mini-mine a success. Looking forward to hearing from you.

—Inga

Did you know ...?

February is named for a Roman festival of purification called "Februa". In England, before the current name was adopted, the name "Solmonath", for "mud month" or "Kale-monath", for "cabbage month" were used.

Che-Hanna Board Meeting

The Che-Hanna Board met Jan.11, 2017 at 6PM at the Sayre High school.

The club trailer still needs to be fixed. After the show in March it will need a permanent home. Trish B. will call Mary Walter to see if it can remain at its present location until after the show.

As both Jack and Marge Walters have passed, it was decided to put both their names on the plaque on the memorial bench being placed at Round Top Park.

We need geodes for the show. Two drums full, bought in 2011, are nearly empty. They are a good money maker at the show. Bob McGuire was authorized on motion by Inga Wells, seconded by Bruce Benish, to buy more geodes, with a budget of \$700.

Trish B. is the front door chairperson. It has been suggested that members wear name tags during the show to identify themselves as Che-Hanna members. Inga W. will make the tags. Bob Mc. will check with the fire hall to see if things can be taped on the walls during the show.

It was agreed to give the annual donation of \$150 to the American Federation and \$150 to the Eastern Federation scholarship fund.

Trish B gave the Treasurer's report.

Inga needs tumbled stones for the kids mini-mine at the show.

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

—*Peggy Huffman, Secretary*

Che-Hanna Club Meeting

Che-Hanna Minutes - Jan.11,2017

Our meeting opened with all standing and pledging Allegiance to Our Flag.

Minutes from the previous meetings were accepted.

Trish Benish gave the treasurer's report and explained income and expenses. It was filed for audit.

JoAnn McGuire gave the sunshine report. Sadly, we have lost two members, Marge Walters and Paul Bloss. Several members are under the weather.

Inga Wells reported that the Junior Rockhounds (AKA Pebble Pups) had held their annual bowling party. They were going to tour the SRAC in Waverly. They have been quite active with projects.

Field trip leader Bill Chapman told that there is a new spot for Herkimers about 5 miles from Herkimer NY and fossils at the Seneca Stone Quarry, below Geneva NY.

Show Publicity- Hazel R. has all the printing done, posters 1\2 sheets, etc. Wait until after the beginning of March to put them out.

Bob McGuire will be ordering more geodes for the show. They are a very popular item.

In memory of Marge Walters, her name will be placed on the plaque on the memorial bench at Round Top Park, beside her husband Jack's name.

A book on Dinosaurs will be given to the Towanda Library in memory of John Dysher. A book for Paul Bloss will be purchased.

Help is needed for the show. Setting out highway signs, putting up tables on Friday, security during show, front table, hospitality table (will include the door prizes this year). The summer picnics will be on July 16th and August 13th at the Satterly Creek Nature Center in Litchfield, a couple of miles outside of Athens.

Meeting adjourned on a motion by Inga W, seconded by Bill Dimmick.

After snack break we saw the second half of the DVD "Giant Crystal Cave".

—*Peggy Huffman, Secretary*



Junior Rockhound News

The Junior Rockhound families had a busy month of January with a bowling party, a visit to the [Susquehanna River Archaeological Center](#) and their regular meeting. I posted a few photos of the crafts you created on Facebook and you received many compliments. As a thank you for the bowling party, the families donated items to the food pantry. That group photo turned out great.

Our February meeting will be held on the 3rd Sunday, the 19th, at 2 PM at the AUM church. We will learn about metallic elements and minerals first and then try our hands at making dream catchers. Please bring your sheet with the metallic minerals or a list of the ones still missing from your sheet and I will give you the ones you still need.

Club T-shirts: we can order blue shirts with our club logo on the back for \$7 each. Contact me with the sizes you need. It will be nice to have them to wear at our show and when we go on field trips.

Our show is quickly approaching, I will bring a sign-up sheet for the mini-mine to the March 19th meeting. Since I will not be able to attend the show on Saturday, the 25th, due to all day classes at Cornell, I need parents to oversee the mine for that day. I will take the early Sunday shift, so you can attend church as usual. Help for Sunday afternoon will be appreciated. The show ends at 4 PM, then the clean-up will begin. Trish Benish has the sign-up sheet for other help needed at the show. Her contact info is on the website and in the newsletter. As every year, we will be filling my display case with items you have made and some of the badges you have been working on. I will need your contribution by the March meeting to have them on Friday afternoon for set-up. If there are some of the new families wishing to take charge of this, the kids could earn their display badge. I will bring the display badge folder to the February meeting.

At the March 19th meeting, we will be making simple jewelry for the young ones and more complicated stuff by the older kids.

—Inga

Editor's Note

Another month, another bulletin.

Thanks to all the content contributors this month; I didn't need to write much of anything!

I continue to encourage all Che-Hanna members to contribute any digital artifacts related to our hobby. This means any writing or image files. If I include it in the Shin-Skinner, you (and it) will gain immortality, in a way -- the Internet never forgets! (For one thing, there's [The Wayback Machine](#).) Someday, maybe we'll get to animation and other video :-)



In Memoriam - Ted Keir

As the news broke, for many of us via Facebook, that Ted Keir had passed away, the steady stream of condolences and comments turned into a river of love for Ted. Ted loved rivers and streams, rocks, fossils, Native American artifacts, outdoor recreation and so much more. Most of all, he loved people and teaching them about the many things he loved.

Ted was the "go-to" person for information in our Valley. We will miss him terribly. However, his legacy will live forever. It will live on at the SRAC museum where his extensive collection resides, in his shell collection, donated to the Museum of the Earth in Ithaca, so students can study them for many generations. It will live on in the many earth science students he taught in Athens, in the athletic students to whom he taught good sportsmanship.

For our rock club, he will always be remembered as one of our founding fathers. He was the liaison for our club to Eastern Federation for decades and held many of the club offices.

He received many awards for this hobby and many others. In him, we had our own Garrison Keillor, our own "A Prairie Home Companion"-type story teller. On field trips, he entertained us with his good humor. When visiting his museum, his enthusiasm for the hobby kept us there for hours,

hanging on every word. He was humble and kind and had a welcoming smile for everyone. He was the most popular person at our show. The Pebble Pups remember him fondly. He will be missed.

When I did something for him, like propose him to receive an EFMLS award, a surprise for him at one of the convention dinners in Harrisburg, or a scholarship to attend Wildacres, or just putting salt on his icy sidewalk when I knew he was ill, he called me up and called me "a little stinker." He was a very proud and independent man.

I always planned a half hour to talk to him when I walked to Science Olympiad practice at the Athens school. He used to help with that. He gave my name to scouts leaders, conservation organizations, teachers to have me come and give his usual lecture and display of rocks and fossils because he wanted to concentrate on SRAC.

He and Evelyn were always so welcoming. I remember the first time I attended the Athens United Methodist Church to hear one of the Pebble Pups sing, he and Evelyn saw me enter the church and invited me to sit with them. The same thing happened when I first attended a Carantouan Greenway meeting, again, they invited me to come and sit with them. Same thing when I went to the Andasti #5 archaeological club, he made me sit with him and introduced me to the rest of members. I consider him a Mentor and a friend.

We offered Ted rides to the Che-Hanna Christmas party in Towanda, but he always drove himself. After the last party he attended, we noticed that his back tire was flat and 3 cars of club members followed his car to many gas stations between Towanda and Athens until we found one that had air. It was so hard for him when he had to give up driving.

—Inga

Moorehead Book Donation



On behalf of The Che-Hanna Rock and Mineral Club of Sayre PA, I presented a book titled " Gem Trails of Pennsylvania and New Jersey", by Scott Stepanski, to the Back Mountain Memorial Library, in memory of club member, Jim Moorehead of Dallas. Accepting the book for the library is Director Martha Butler. This book was selected because Jim and author Scott had trekked some of the trails together.

—Bob

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; 48th 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; chehannarocks.com

25-26... CHAMBERSBURG, PA:

39th Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show; by: Franklin County Rock & Mineral Club; Hamilton Heights Elementary School (1589 Johnson Road) [flyer](#)

April 2017

1-2... 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 & Jewelry Displays, UV Light Show, Flint-knapping demo, Gem & mineral identification, Food, Silent Auction & door prizes; contact Thomas Ogden, 96 West Main St, Bainbridge NY 13733; (607)-226-2319; stonecuttertom@yahoo.com

29-30... FRANKLIN, NJ:

45th Annual show; NJ Earth Science Assoc; Franklin Borough School, 40 Washington Ave, Franklin; Russ Brarens@908-421-1045; <http://www.njesa.org/spring-mineral-show.html>