

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

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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: Sandy Keener, Helen Tracy, & Nancy Welles

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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*

To close out the year 2015, a great bunch of members showed up at our Christmas Dinner Party. Food, friends, fun, and presents were enjoyed by all.



Dee read a couple of her poems,



I presented a "Rockhound of the Year" award certificate to Bill and Pat Chapman,



and Hazel called out the numbers for the pick a gift event.



It was great to see Flossie there, thanks Norma.

Lovely gem trees at each place setting were made and donated by Sandy Keener. Thank you Sandy.



Everyone left full and happy and wishing each other a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Speaking of the new year, it is time to get to work on our 2016 show. It is March 19 and 20 with setup on the 18th. Much help will be needed.

Next meeting is January 13 and 6:00 for the Board and 7:00 for the regular and program.

Hope all had a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and wish all a GREAT NEW YEAR.

January Program

For January, we will have a "Show and Tell" session in which members will bring in and briefly discuss specimens which are significant in their collections. These could be a specimen that began them in the hobby, one with uniqueness, one from an unusual location, or one with an interesting story.

To anyone who is not a mineral (or fossil, or artifact, or ...) collector, a collection seems like it's just an assemblage of something. If it were only about the characteristics of the items in a collection, you might as well just have a database.

But to a real hobbyist, every piece has a story, and knowing that makes you a collector. After all, "amateur" is from the French for "lover of".

Please share a little bit of the "love of" at our next meeting.

(By the way, I'd really like to use the word "lithophile" for "rock lover", but that has the technical meaning of micro-organisms that live in rocks, or elements that combine with silicon, unfortunately. ☺)

Can o' Shiny

by D.Dick

(I'm putting an entry here because I can't attend our meeting).

My Show and Tell "specimen" is not just one piece but a 13-ounce can of Herkimer Diamonds. They're just culls, because the best ones were removed for storage elsewhere, but they *were* all collected one weekend.



My whole family (parents D.H. and Gloria, and sister April) hunted the doubly-terminated quartz crystals many times in the 1960s. A favorite place was the Hastings Farm (AKA "Diamond Acres") in Fonda, NY, on Stone Arabia Road†. This was before the whole location looked like a battlefield (only the entrance did).

We stayed in a tent on the field right near the diggings. In the morning, when it was time to head out, we'd go south along the ridge to an area that was not too dug up. It was nice and shady, and we'd find a dig we could all gather around and gradually excavate. My father would break and move the big stuff, my mother would work on pockets, and my sister and I would sift.

A real family collecting experience.

† 42°57'48" North, 74°28'37" West or (42.9633333333, -74.4769444444), for you GPS aficionados)

Sunshine Report

by JoAnn McGuire

Haven't been having a lot of sunshine lately; been cloudy and dreary. No snow to speak of yet. Hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and hope you have a Happy, Healthy New Year.

Don't know of anyone who is in need of cheer. So, hope you all are well and if not, hope you're feeling much better soon. If you know of someone who needs a card or a phone call, please let me know and I'll do my best to contact them.

Hope to see you in the New Year at the first meeting on the 13th of January, Sayre High School.

*Junior Rockhound News**by Inga*

Greetings Rockhounds and Pebble Pups. I wish everyone a Happy and Healthy 2016 and hopefully we will find lots of good rocks for your collections.

We will not meet at the church on Sunday, January 10th. Instead, we will be meeting at the Valley Bowling Center in Waverly on January 10. **Please be there at 2 PM at the latest**, or a bit before — since you need to get your shoes and find a ball. We will have pizza and soda, and some rock-themed desserts. There is no cost to you. Please RSVP to let me know who is attending this event.

On Saturday, January 9, we will visit the Museum of the Earth in Ithaca. I believe some of you are meeting at Carli Yeager-Hall's home at 9 AM. Please confirm with her. The museum opens at 10 and there is a lot to see. Let me know if you are going. Perhaps I can schedule a group tour/rates.

I will be picking up a couple of my Science Olympiad students or at least that is the plan at the moment. Check Facebook, e-mail, or call my cell-phone, 607-425-7426. The Museum has a great website and the Cayuga Nature Center is part of it. If you love tree houses, you need to visit the Nature Center too. **Paleontological Research Institution and its Museum of the Earth, 1259 Trumansburg Road, Ithaca, NY 14850 Ph: (607) 273-6623**

From the Valley take Route 34 to Ithaca and follow Rt 13/34 into the city. Turn left onto Route 96/West Buffalo St. **Stay in the left lane**, following signs for Route 96 and the Hospital. From Route 13, the Museum of the Earth is located 2.3 miles on your right, immediately before Cayuga Medical Center.

Remember to put the Annual show on your calendar. It is on March 19/20. We have a theme for our case: "Man-made Minerals and their Uses" has been suggested.

We will finalize plans at the Feb. 14th meeting at the church. That is Valentine's Day. If you can't be there, please let me know.

Editor's Note

I hope you had a joyful holiday season, and are ready to go with a new year in our geo-hobbies.

This month you probably notice more pictures. Contributors have provided pictures in the past, but, although I can now insert them, I'm still wrestling with layout.

I have changed (improved?) my email address. You can now write to me at **david.r.dick@graniteur.org**. I hope this mailbox will fill up with bulletin submissions (hint, hint). You can also follow me on Twitter at the handle **@graniteur**.

Good Collecting (should I say "Rock On!"),
David Dick
Nashua, New Hampshire

*Upcoming Shows & Events***February 2016**

12-14— ALBANY, NEW YORK: Annual show; Capital District Mineral Club, New York State Museum; Empire Plaza, 222 Madison Ave; Sat. 10:00 am-5:00 pm, Sun. 10:00 am-5:00 pm; Admission is \$5.00, Children are free; contact Michael Hawkins, (518) 486-2011; e-mail: michael.hawkins@nysed.gov

March 2016

19-20— SAYRE, PENNSYLVANIA: Annual show; Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club Inc., Athens Twp. Volunteer Fire Co. Hall; 211 Herrick Ave.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; \$3.00, \$1.00, under 8 free; 47th 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; Web site: www.chehannarocks.com

April 2016

2-3— JOHNSON CITY, NEW YORK: Annual show; New York Southern Tier Geology Club, Johnson City Senior Center; 30 Brocton St.; Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10 am-4 pm; Adults \$3.00, Children 12 and under are free; Annual club show "47th Museum of Gems". Exhibits · Ultra Violet Display · Flint Knapping demonstration · Beads and Supplies · Minerals and Fossils · Door prizes · Food and drinks for sale. Mineral and Gemstone Identification. Lots to do. Come early and stay late.; contact Thomas Ogden, 96 West Main St., Bainbridge, NY 13733, (607) 967-8552; e-mail: stonecuttertomm@yahoo.com

2-3— PLYMOUTH MEETING, PENNSYLVANIA: Show and sale; Philadelphia Mineralogical Society and Delaware Valley Paleontological Society, LuLu Temple; 5140 Butler Pike; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; \$5 Admission, Admission \$1.00 children under 12; Fossils, Minerals, Gems, Speakers, and Exhibits! Learning activities include a Fossil Dig and a Kid's Mineral Corner. Also-Scouting Merit Badge Information available. Food and Door Prizes throughout both days.; contact Douglas Klieger, 26 Cabot Ct., Chesterbrook, PA 19087, 6106442492; e-mail: dklieger@verizon.net; Web site: www.philamineralsociety.org

14-17— ROCHESTER, NEW YORK: The Rochester Mineralogical Symposium, organized by the Rochester Academy of Science will take place from 14th April to the 17th April 2016 at the Radisson Hotel Rochester Riverside, 120 East Main St. The conference will cover areas like mineralogical miracles at Merelani, Herodsfoot mine, Richard Talling and bournonite, to that of the sulfur mines of Sicily.

May 2016

14-15— LEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA: 48th Annual World of Gems and Minerals: Gemstone, Jewelry, Bead, Mineral and Fossil Show. At <http://www.leesportmarket.com/>. Sat: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. Sun: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. Organized by: Berks Mineralogical Society - Admission \$3.00

June 2016

4— MACUNGIE, PENNSYLVANIA: 66th semi-annual Mineralfest. Macungie Memorial Park (Popular St). 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM. Adult admission \$2.00. Organized by Pennsylvania Earth Sciences Association. <http://www.mineralfest.com/>

4-5— MONROE, NEW YORK: Annual Mineral, Jewelry, Gem & Fossil Show. Museum Village, 1010 Route 17M. Organized by Orange County Mineral Society. www.mineralevents.com/flyers/2016orangecounty.jpg