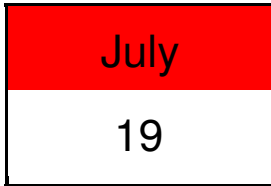


Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club, Inc.

# The Shin-Skinner News — July 2020



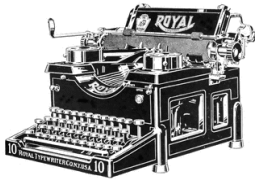
Our monthly club meeting will be a picnic on Sunday, July 19, starting at 11:00 am; eating will commence at 1:00 pm. There will be many activities.



We have a field trip Saturday, July 11, at the Deep Springs Road Quarry, Earlville, NY. See page 3. It's a fossil location, Middle Devonian (Givetian) shale.



Our last meeting was the June picnic, when we elected the slate of new officers. Congratulations to all.



Many clubs' newsletters have an abbreviated publishing schedule during the summer. The Shin-Skinner does not—I think there should be an issue every month, and I will provide as much event information as I can, even if more of it will start to be for online events.

Add our club address to your email software's address book:

[chehannarocks1969@gmail.com](mailto:chehannarocks1969@gmail.com)

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 Message

Hello, I hope everyone is safe and healthy in these challenging times. Staying home has not been as easy as it sounds, so the fossil dig coming up may be a nice diversion for some of us. They say the place can get busy so we will have to watch the social distancing.

The Sayre Area School District says we will be able to use the cafeteria, but we will need to follow the Covid-19 protocols. Once again this means masks and social distancing, but there is a lot of room there so this should be possible.

Inga Wells has agreed to be the Pebble Pups director. Best of luck.

As for me I hope to do the best (least) I can as your president. If you have any ideas how to make the club better let me know and I will try to bring the subject up for discussion.

Hope to see everybody at the picnic.

—Bruce Benish

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## Sunshine Report

Hope you all are doing well with the recent spike in the virus. Seems like it doesn't want to go away any time soon.

Get well to Inga who is having medical issues again, this time with a reaction to a shingles shot. Hope to hear she's on the mend and much better.

Happy birthday and happy anniversary to all who will be celebrating in the month of July. Have a great day.

If you know of anyone who needs a card or phone call, please let me know.

Hope to see you at the picnic on July 19th, Satterlee Creek Park. Stay well all.

—JoAnn,  
Miss Sunshine

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## July Picnic

*I haven't received any additional information about this month's picnic, so I just modified the notes for last month's. -Editor*

Our July picnic will be **Sunday July 19, 2020** at the Litchfield SCEC Pavilion. Please bring a dish to pass and your table service. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided. We will meet at 11:00 a.m. and eat at 1:00 p.m.

Social distancing will be practiced and masks are optional. Most of us can talk and be heard 6 feet away.

Please bring your own serving spoon which you will use on all dishes on the table. Save the messiest for last.

\*Please park all vehicles before the sign at the nature center.\*

The two grinding machines will be set up for you to either polish a cabochon that the club has or a stone that you brought with you.

There will be a few activities such as games

You are welcome to bring your own table and display stones or supplies that you have for sale, but since we need to spread out at the tables we need more room than normal under the pavilion.

**Sunday August 16, 2020** is Che-Hanna Club's August picnic at the Litchfield SCEC Pavilion. Please bring a dish to pass and your table service. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided. We will meet at 11:00 a.m. and eat at 1:00 p.m.

If you need directions email  
chehannarocks1969@gmail.com

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## Did You Know?

- There are over 20,000 identified Trilobite species;
- Trilobites lived between 521 and 252 million years ago;
- The largest species was 1 foot and a half long;
- The last species vanished during the Permian-Triassic Mass Extinction (#3).

## ***Fossil Hunting Trip***

Here are the instructions David Millis texted for the fossil field trip.

The field trip to collect fossils is on July 11th, the second Saturday. The site is called Deep Springs Rd Quarry and is outside of the village of Earlville NY.

Deep Springs is the name of the dirt road where we will be collecting.

As discussed at the June picnic, we will meet just north of Binghamton, NY at 9 AM.

From the Valley take I-86 to I-81. At "Kamikaze Curve", look for signs for the left lane to 81 North toward Syracuse. Let us hope for not too many construction delays on either interstate)

On I-81, get off at exit 6 and turn right onto US-11 at the light at the end of the ramp.

At the next light turn right again. This used to be Upper Front St and the North Gate Plaza. (That address is 1250 Upper Front St.)

There are fast food places on both side of the entrance to the plaza.

We picked Burger King as our meeting place. There is a big plaza parking lot and cars can be left there if you wish to carpool.

Dave goes on to say that he has not been there in a while so if it is full of condominiums meet at a fast food place on the left. Let's meet at Burger King! We can have a bathroom stop.

We will then take US 11 (Castle Creek Rd) to the I-81 ramp toward Whitney Point. On I-81 - we take exit 8, right ramp for Rt 26.

After about 25 miles on Rt 26, we take Route 80 East. After about 2.8 mile make a left turn onto Foster Rd, the road goes north, that name changes to Campbell Rd/CR71. From Campbell Rd, turn right onto Lebanon Rd/CR-62 and then a left turn onto Deep Springs Rd. It's about a mile to the dig. Sorry, my eyes are not focusing on the millage on my Google maps print out.

I believe Siri or any of your GPS devices can get you there should Dave lose you along the way. I always print out a google map or other map to have on hand just in case Siri gets lost.

Dave goes on to say the dig is private property, but permission has been given to anyone that is involved in teaching kid about fossils. So, bring your kids. The only problem will be keeping them from overloading the car.

I asked him what you need to bring. He said layers of papers to separate the fossils from each other. The kids will find the fossils without tools and adults should bring a chisel and hammer to reveal new fossils. Oxymoron! Well, not new, since they are 360 million years old. The most common fossils found are brachiopods, about 5 different kinds. But there are others, including trilobites and clams.

The fossil Dave showed at the picnic was a clam.

Bring protection from the sun, bring water and food.

My notes: Since we are working in shale, which can be sharp, please wear eye protection when chipping away. No flip-flops please, wear solid shoes. I wear long pants and long shirts for my protection from everything.

On previous trips with kids, I have used old dull butter knives to pull shale apart. Old mason trowels and anything that will help separate layers. Lots of these fossils will pop right out of the shale. Layer your fossils in boxes.

This a popular place so be courteous to other diggers and keep that 6 feet distance from other families. Have fun!

Kind people from the Fossil forum have shared fossil identifications and other data with me. The location is in Madison County. The farthest eastern edge of the Windom formation outcrops.

Please let Dave Millis know if you are attending. If you change your mind, please let him know that you are not meeting up with him.

His phone for calls and text is (305)395-9560

—Inga Wells

## ***Pebble Pup News***

Hello Pebble Pup Families,

Hope to see you at the club picnic on July 19. There is more information regarding the picnic in the newsletter. I heard you had fun at the June picnic.

Thanks to John Milligan for providing all those rocks for you to take home. I think mica might be everyone's favorite so far.

There will be lots to do for the kiddos to keep them from being bored. From 11 AM on they can paint fossils collected at a field trip on July 11. More about that via email, Facebook notice, or in this newsletter.

Other activities: as per summer picnic tradition, each of you will create a volcanic landscape and then use baking soda and vinegar to make an eruption. I will be bringing play dough and decorations and the kids can also find some stuff around the area for their igneous landscape. I will be bringing a gallon of vinegar and the baking soda, some food coloring and a bit of ketchup. Of course, there will be dinosaurs to add to the landscape. During the eruptions, safety glasses must be worn. I will have some in my supply kit should your kids not have any.

The third activity will be panning for treasures. There will be a bucket of sand with small stones in the sand/soil. We might be doing this in the creek or I will bring a tub for water. We will show you how panning is done. You will add a scoop of this mix to your pan and use water to find these treasures. Science behind the fun: gravity does the work when using a gold pan. The gold pans have riffles that create eddies behind them and trap the heavier particles. By swirling the pan the heavier stuff goes to the bottom and the lighter stuff rides to the top and gets washed away. So, you are using 3 principles, gravity, density of the stones, and water as a solvent. Every time you stop moving the pan you are re-stratifying the stuff as it settles in the pan. This will count toward their gold panning merit badge. I hope everyone finds some fools gold,

garnet, magnetite, and some pretty and interesting stuff. Bring a waterproof container for your loot.

The kids may exchange rocks from the box I gave to them for tumbled stones. Any returned minerals must include the label that came with it.

Also, remember the coloring contest of the crystal page. I have picked out 4 prizes as rewards for coloring the crystal page.

We'll have lunch at 1 PM and after lunch Dave Millis, AKA Rockdoc, will have games and entertainment.

Looking forward to seeing you. Contact me for more information and concerns. 607-425-7426

—Inga  
607-425-7426

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## ***Upcoming Shows & Events***



As you might imagine, the Covid-19 pandemic has thrown every schedule into chaos. Mineral shows and other activities are always big gatherings, so all their status is canceled, postponed, or uncertain.

I can't find out more than sketchy or tentative information, so there are no listings for this issue.



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## June Picnic

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Presidents Dave Millis and Bruce Benish

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John Milligan and daughter packing up the rocks that were not taken. Scott Chaffee came to their rescue and picked out some.

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## AFMS Code of Ethics

- I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.
- I will keep informed on all laws, regulations, or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.



- I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind—fences, signs, buildings.
- I will leave all gates as found.
- I will build fires in designated or safe places only, and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- I will discard no burning material—matches, cigarettes, etc.
- I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.
- I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- I will cooperate with field trip leaders and this in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land Management, or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and other purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use "Good Outdoor Manners", and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and public "image" of rockhounds everywhere.

*Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club, Inc.*  
 9516 N. Rome Rd., Athens, PA 18810



**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 (EFMLS) and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS).

**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 St) 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. Please make paragraphs obvious.

Deadline for submissions to the next Shin-Skinner issue is **28-July-2020**. 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 or photographer, if known, and Shin-Skinner News. If you use anything, an email note to the editor would be appreciated.

#### **OFFICERS**

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 Secretary: **Mary Walter** mksrck@yahoo.com  
 Treasurer & member chair: **Trish Benish**  
 patriciabbenish@gmail.com  
 Immed. Past Pres. **Dave Millis**

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

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

**Duane Wells, Jeff Benish, Frank Meadows**

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 Librarian: **Bruce Benish**  
 Sunshine Chair: **JoAnn McGuire** 570-928-9238  
 uvbob1942@gmail.com

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