

CRACK 'N CAB



Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, PO Box 2801, Syracuse, NY
web <http://www.gmss.us> Volume 48 Issue 2 February 2018
209 Oswego St (Ponderosa Plaza), Unit 15, Liverpool, NY

Now Open! NEW Marie Cole Skill Center at Our Clubhouse on Oswego Street in Liverpool

Our Lapidary Committee has done an amazing job Creating our BRAND NEW Marie Cole Skill Center. We are pleased to announce upcoming Formal Classes and Supervised Open Workshop Hours.

ADULT CLASSES (17 years and over) will run February 21 through April 11 (tentative dates) for 8 weeks on Wednesdays from 6PM to 9PM.
Cost will be \$80.00 per student.

General Information

- You must provide your own safety glasses
- Students will learn how to cut and polish cabochons from stone slabs. You may bring your own slabs or you may purchase one from a selection provided by your instructor.
- There will be an extra cost for slabs purchased from the instructor.
- You will learn how to bezel your finished pieces in silver. Silver will be sold to students at the market price at the time of purchase

YOUTH CLASSES (ages 11 to 16) will run February 24 through March 17 (tentative dates) for 4 weeks on Saturday mornings 10AM to 12 noon.
Cost will be \$20.00 dollars per student.

General Information

- Safety glasses will be provided
- Each student must be accompanied by an adult
- Students will learn how to cut and polish cabochons from stone slabs. Slabs will be available for purchase from the instructor for an extra charge. You will learn how to make a hole in your finished cabochon, attach a jump ring and string a cord for a necklace

SIGN UP NOW! Contact Joanne Suchon 315-440-4098

Open Workshop Times will begin February 27th (tentatively). The workshop is open to anyone who has completed a GMSS sponsored lapidary class. The workshop usage fee is \$5.00 per person.

Wednesday Afternoon 1:00PM to 4:00PM

Saturday Afternoon 1:00PM to 4:00PM

Contact Joanne to request access on weekday evenings and to volunteer to help supervise.

Geo Lexis (Puzzle) By Anne Fitzgerald

If you were lucky enough to be born in February, you probably know your birthstone is Amethyst. But did you know that Amethyst is so well regarded, there is even a clam named after the gem? The clam is called amethyst gem clam and can be found in both the Atlantic or Pacific oceans. Amethyst is often associated with good feeling, peace, and tranquility. Carry around this beautiful gemstone, or wear it for jewelry.

Then, even in the dark and cold days of February, you could be happy as as an amethyst gem clam.

Amethyst is special to me because it's usually purple and hides in wonderful places like geodes for eons until a lucky human cracks one open for the ultimate surprise. Amethyst also has lots of other words within it.

I found 25 words within the word **Amethyst**.

See how many you can find. (Three letters or more.) Then see if you can find some possible answers on another page of this newsletter.

Minutes

General Meeting January 15, 2018

Rick Moore gave the presentation this evening, titled, 'The Present is the Key to the Past'. 3 key players, James Hutton, William Smith and Charles Lyell developed theories about the earth's processes and cycles, eventually describing the field of Geology that we study today. Thanks so much for the presentation Rick.



The first Show meeting for 2018 was held at Doc's Little Gem Diner. Show dates are July 14 and 15. Set-up Thursday the 12th and Friday the 13th. Topics discussed: Demonstrators and Free booths, Website and Facebook sites, the Learning Center, Club Booth and Youth area, Exhibitors and Display cases, Signage and Advertising. Please set aside time to volunteer in any of these areas, all hands are welcome. Thank you Dick for the excellent job you do with the show every year!

Bus trip to Buffalo Show is planned for March 24th, 2018. See additional information for time, price etc. in this newsletter.

Mid-February will be the opening of lapidary and metalsmithing classes! See additional information posted elsewhere in this newsletter.

Linda Clark gave the Treasurer's report. Thank you Linda for keeping such good track of the Gem and Mineral Society's finances. Linda has saved the club money on the storage unit, kept track of daily, weekly and monthly expenses for the club, always showing us how we have made money for the club and exactly where it all goes! Hats off for a great job Linda!

Now is the time to register for Wild Acres. The classes are in April of 2018.

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna L. Dow, Secretary

Upcoming Events

February 18 1:30-5 Bead Society - The Bead Society of Central New York is moving to the GMSS Clubhouse. We will be holding our monthly meetings here on the third Sunday of the month from 1:30 to 5:00. All are welcome! Come see what we are working on and get involved!

February 19 Jr Rockhounds Meet 6:30 **Full Group Meeting 7:30**

Our speaker is Craig Milburn. His topic will be about the Onondaga Lake cleanup. Craig is Managing Partner at Brown & Sanford Consulting and serves Honeywell as Program Manager of Communications and Government Affairs on the Onondaga Lake project. His main responsibilities include developing and implementing strategy for communication activities, charitable programs, and government affairs. He works closely with community members on the Onondaga Lake Citizen Participation Working Group, local stakeholders and government officials to keep them apprised of the progress with the lake cleanup.

Onondaga Lake is well on its way to becoming a sustainable ecosystem for generations to come. Through thoughtful planning and input from local scientists, wetland ecologists, and the community, dynamic and diverse wetlands are becoming the cornerstone of a renewed watershed. More than 250 wildlife species, some that have not been seen in decades, are now calling these areas home, and more than 120 unique bird species

have been identified in and around Onondaga Lake, a priority Audubon Important Bird Area. About 90 acres of wetlands have been restored and about 1.1 million native plants are being planted. Native vegetation, including plants with links to Onondaga Lake's rich history highlights the resurgence.

February 24 - 25 Albany Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show NY State Museum, 222 Madison Ave, Albany, NY

February 27 - GemWorld Show Committee Meeting Location - the Gem Diner on Spencer Street. Meeting starts at 7, but come early if you want to have dinner.

We still need a theme/title for our show. Got any ideas? Please bring them to the meeting or email show@gmss.us

March 24 - 25 Buffalo Geological Society Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show, Hamburg Fairgrounds. **March 24 GMSS is chartering a bus to go to the Show.** Our bus will leave from the Shoppingtown parking lot near Macy's at 8AM and returning between 9 and 10PM. The cost is \$40 for members and \$45 for non-members. There will be a dinner stop on our way home. Space is on a first come first served basis. Bring your check to this month's Club Meeting or mail to - GMSS, P.O. Box 2801, Syracuse, NY 13220 The deadline for your postmarked mail reservation is February 22nd. If you have questions, you can call Cheryl Brown at [315-708-9122](tel:315-708-9122).

The Show focus is on GOLD. Demonstrations, mini mine, crystal jewelry, rock crystals, fossils, beads, gold panning, flint knapping, and something for everyone. Free parking. Adults are \$5 and children 12 and under are free as well as scouts in uniform.

March 24 - 25 Che-Hanna Rock and Mineral Club 49th Annual Show 111 Lake Road, Wysox Volunteer Fire Hall, Wysox, PA 18854

April 3 GMSS Board Meeting

April 21st - The 3rd Annual Geology Day at Onondaga Free Library

Dr Dave Millis will be this years guest presenter. The youth event is geared for elementary and junior high students (parents welcome to stay). High school students are welcome to attend the adult presentation.

10:30 am -12 noon Basic Mineral Identification for Kids. The "Roc Doc" will bring a huge collection of rocks for kids to see and touch while speaking about the characteristics of rocks and minerals. After enjoying a bowl of Rocky Road ice cream, each child will leave with 3 labeled rocks!

2-3:30 Geology Pot Potpourri - Dr Millis will touch on 11 different Geology related subjects including crystal shape of rocks, the Adirondack Mountain rocks, the Bering Land Bridge, and quartz radios, watches and clocks. Ice cream for adults, too!

Onondaga Free Library is located at *4840 West Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse, NY 13215*

June 2 - 3 Wayne County Gem and Mineral Club Show Canandaigua Civic Center, 250 North Bloomfield Road, Canandaigua, NY 14424

July 14 - 15 GemWorld 2018 SRC Arena on OCC Campus 4585 West Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse, NY 13215

August 10 - 12 East Coast Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show Eastern States Exposition Better Living Center, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield, MA 01089

Early Suggestions for 2018 Field Trips

March 3rd PRI, Museum of the Earth

March 24th Bus trip to Buffalo Gem and Mineral Show - make your reservations soon! Deadline is February 22nd

April 1st Ace of Diamonds opening day (this is Easter Sunday, we can schedule this for the following weekend if you would prefer)

May 5th Penn Dixie

June 2nd Alden Spring Creek, Erie County or Ilion Gorge, Herkimer County

June 2, 3 Wayne County Gem & Mineral Show, Canandaigua, NY

July 14, 15 GemWorld 2018, SRC Arena, Onondaga Community College

July 21, 22 Herkimer Diamond Gem Show & Festival

August 5th GMSS Annual Picnic, Sims Store, Camillus

August 10 - 12 East Coast Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show, West Springfield, MA

August 25, 26 St. Lawrence Gem and Mineral Show with collecting at Powers Farm

**Let us know your suggestions!*

IN MEMORIAM 1929-2018

We have to slow down doing this as we have lost two club members in one month. Now, long time member **Rollie Allen** has passed on (Saturday January 20). There was a long obituary in the Post Standard so I am not going to repeat all that. In his youthful years Rollie was very involved in school groups, sports and had parts in plays. If you ever noticed those biceps, they were built lifting and running a noisy jackhammer way back when. Rollie served in the US military during "Korea" which is again in the news with the Olympics. He then had a career of 40 years with the Syracuse Newspapers, mostly Post Standard and many of those as news Editor. We are told that newsmen swear a lot and the report from a fellow worker there said that Rollie thru quiet looks and a roll of eyes was successful in toning it down a lot. Headline news -- when on Republican convention night in 1980 it was leaked that Gerald Ford would be VP and then late word came that it would be George H W Bush, Rollie insisted on the unheard of, *on press page change*. Reportedly, it was a huge battle there but Rollie finally prevailed. Next morning he was lauded by management.

Rollie and his wife Bev as he called her, raised two sons and a daughter in Eastwood. The family was extra sad as his passing happened so suddenly. Rollie was totally immersed in his Christian faith and an involved pillar in his church. Thusly a very appropriate memorial service for Rollie was held on Thurs February 8 at his Reformed Church of Syracuse. The family had his dog tags, Massachusetts yearbook, and typewriter plus an old penned vacation column there as part of his mementoes.

Rollie was pretty much a lapidary guy. He was a beader who bought pieces at our wholesale and other wholesale venues. In fact when the beading group of GMSS was formed back when we met at the Presbyterian Church Parish House on W Genesee, he was one of only two guys in that pretty large group. I am told not only did Rollie have ideas but lots of questions. Even before, Rollie did craft shows selling his own creations mixed with both purchased and

repurposed jewelry. He did not get rich on them, but always had a nice smile and a tale to tell the ladies. Rollie took cabbing and wire-wrapping lessons at the GMSS workshop at our former Shoppingtown location. Outdoor rented selling spaces let Rollie wear shorts, shades, and add to his suntan. Rollie's daughter-in-law and grand daughter Beverly were taught some basic beading and ditto wire wrap by Rollie. They helped at his shows and perhaps will continue some. Many times our man reminisced of a special craft show up at Long Lake in the Adirondacks. It was his favorite and he so looked forward to it every August. He oft told us he "did well" there. Plus it got him back to the family's favorite camping area whilst the kids were growing up.

GMSS counted on Rollie for years as he sat taking names, addresses and tax numbers as reselling folks lined up to get in our wholesale section. Many years he was also Johnny on the spot with screwdriver to assemble cases on GemWorld set-up day. As a voting club officer, Rollie served our club as Sgt of Arms for two years. Then because of knee problems he wanted to let it go at that. Rollie was pretty much a regular attendee at GMSS programs, annual picnic and for years brought his wife and daughter to our club Christmas party. What became clear from his obituary and service was Rollie was very much involved in many organizations like Boy Scouts and others that set out to help needy folks. "*He was there*" was the quote uttered. He lived his life "Doing for others as he would have them do unto him." Rollie was a strong Red Sox fan who was kind, opinionated, fairly quiet, and just a good guy to many far and wide. Lots of us shall miss Rollie Allen. BUT it is likely we will get some of his family as new members of GMSS. That will be nice.

by your roving reporter, Bob Livingston

2018 Member Survey

Please tell us how we are doing. Consider filling out the 16 question survey on the next 2 pages. You can fill it out, bring it to the next meeting, mail it to the address on the back page or you can go to the link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HFKVZZB> and fill out the survey online. The online method is by far the easiest way. Thank you for helping us improve GMSS!

2018 Gem and Mineral Club Survey

1. How long have you been a member? (Please circle one of the ranges below).
1 to 5 years 6 to 10 years 11 to 15 years 16 to 20 years 21+ years

2. How did you find out about the Gem and Mineral Society? _____

3. How often are you able to attend a general monthly meeting? (Please circle what closest matches your situation)
Every Month Every other month A couple times a year Never

4. Have you been to the new clubhouse yet?
Yes No

5. If you don't regularly attend a club meeting, can you please let us know why not?
_____ Illness
_____ Too busy
_____ Transportation Problem
_____ Other _____

6. What programs/topics have you really liked?

7. What new programs/topics would you like presented?

8. What are your areas of interest related to the Gem and Mineral Society? Please rate each of these on a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being least interesting to you and 10 being the most interesting.
_____ Fossils
_____ Fossil Field Collecting
_____ Minerals
_____ Mineral Field Collecting
_____ Jewelry
_____ Jewelry Making Classes
_____ Lapidary
_____ Lapidary Classes
_____ Metalsmithing
_____ Metalsmithing Classes

9. If you selected field collecting in number 8, when might you be available to go on field trips? Please check all that apply.
_____ Morning
_____ Afternoon
_____ All day
_____ Weekday
_____ Weekend
_____ Overnight

10. If you selected a class or classes in number 8, when might you be able to attend?

- Morning
- Afternoon
- Evening
- Weekday
- Weekend

11. Do you have children or extended family members between the ages of 6 and 14?

- Yes No

12. If yes, have you consider bringing them to a Junior Rockhound meeting, which takes place before our monthly general meeting?

- Yes No

13. If no, why not? Please select all that apply.

- Sports involvement
- Homework concerns
- School Night
- Topics or activities not of interest
- Other _____

14. Would your children or young extended family members be interested in lapidary instruction (how to cut and polish stone cabochons)?

- yes no

15. We have numerous service opportunities in our club. Most require modest time commitment. Please put a check by committees you have interest in. Contact Steve or Donna at 315-627-0161 for more information about a committee.

- Education Outreach
- Field Trip Planning
- Hospitality (serve meeting refreshments)
- Monthly Program Planning
- Membership
- Junior Rockhounds
- Show Committee
- Show Volunteer

16. Comments or suggestions _____

Possible Answers to Geo Lexis Amethyst

ate, eat, ham, hem, heat, mat, math, meat, met, same, seam, seat, steam, steamy, stem, stay, sty, stye, tame, team, them, yam, yeast, yes, yet

Scoring: 1-5: Glittering
6-20: Sparkling!
21 or more: Dazzling!

Send Your Articles, Photos, Address Corrections/Changes, Comments, Questions, and Complaints to Dan Andrianos, Editor
email - editorgmss@gmail.com
USPS - 4340 Young RD, Syracuse NY 13215
Phone 315-492-6437

Cancellations
When a club event is cancelled:
- a notice will be sent to your email address
- information provided by local television stations
- a notice will be posted on our web site
www.gmsss.us

President's Message
Mark Grasmeyer



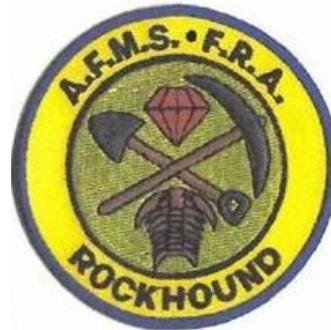
Greetings GMSS Rockhounds... Our Club has made some incredible progress in the last year. **THANK YOU!** to all of our "behind scenes" volunteers! Our new Clubhouse is a great space for all our Club activities including some new ones. We now need your help and suggestions in 4 areas:

1. Lapidary Committee – Help Maintain and Supervise member use of equipment at the Marie Cole Skill Center. To volunteer *Contact Joanne Suchon* phone 315-440-4098
2. Junior Rockhounds – Club member works with our children's program. To learn more, join us at the children's monthly meeting. It starts at 6:30, just before the Regular Group Meeting. You can get more information from the AFMS web site for Future Rockhounds of America http://www.amfed.org/fra/fut_rock.htm. To volunteer or for more info *Contact Rick Moore* email webmaster@gmss.us

3. Hospitality Committee – Help Plan, Coordinate and Supervise Club Meeting and Event Refreshments. To volunteer contact *Donna Dow* email secretary@gmss.us

4. Nominating Committee – Help by suggesting nominations, including yourself, for Executive Board 2019. *Contact Keith Gilmer* with your suggestions email kgilmer@verizon.net

If you can help, let these folks know at the at our next Club Meeting!



We are looking for a few good Junior Rockhounds! (Future Rockhounds of America)



Club Member Mark Oros is on the cover of the Tucson Show Guide (blue topaz) – Congrats!



Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse
PO Box 2801
Syracuse, New York 13220
First Class Mail
February 2018
 Time Dated Material



www.amfed.org www.amfed.org/efmls [Future Rockhounds](#)

Eight people organized the Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse in 1951. Since that time it has grown in membership to include adults, families, and young folk. The Society was incorporated in 1969 under the same name.

The objectives of the Society are to stimulate interest in mineralogy, paleontology, and the lapidary arts. Member interests include collecting, identification, and display of minerals, gems, fossils. Members share and develop their artistic skills in jewelry design and creation.

Our monthly meetings provide social and educational experiences. Field trips give collectors chances to find specimens and enjoy the out of doors, exercise and time with old and new friends.

Meetings - 3rd Monday of the month
Future Rockhounds @ 6:30 - General Meeting @ 7:30
(NO Meetings Jul, Aug, Dec)

209 Oswego St (Ponderosa Plaza) Unit 14 & 15, Liverpool, NY
Visitors are ALWAYS welcome!

See online Newsletter <http://gmss.us/resources/newsletter>
 You can also visit our facebook and flickr pages

Annual member dues

Adult \$10 • Family/Couple \$15 • Junior \$5 • Life \$5

If you would like to join or renew membership download the application form (PDF), see <http://gmss.us/about/membershipform.pdf> You can get a form at a meeting or send requests to **GMSS, PO Box 2801, Syracuse, NY 13220** We will mail an application/renewal form to you.

Web – <http://www.gmss.us>

Club Officers 2018-2019

- President
Mark Grasmeyer 317-1350 pres@gmss.us
- Vice-President & Program Chair
Cheryl Brown vp@gmss.us – programs@gmss.us
- Future Rockhounds
Shannon Phillips kidsrock@gmss.us
- Treasurer
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Donna Dow secretary@gmss.us
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-Charlie Brown sgtatarms@gmss.us
- Show Chair GemWorld 2018
Dick Lyons 672-5328 show@gmss.us
- Club Library
Steve Albro 607-756-2298 library@gmss.us
- Lapidary Committee
Joanne Suchon 315-440-4098
Cathy Patterson 480-8907 sunshine@gmss.us
- Web/facebook/flickr
Rick Moore 834-7442 webmaster@gmss.us
- Club Newsletter & Web
Dan Andrianos 492-6437 editorgmss@gmail.com
- Photographers Extraordinaire
Judy Cook, Steve Albro
- Hospitality Committee Chair & Members
We are looking for volunteers, contact Donna at secretary@gmss.us for more info