

CRACK 'N CAB



Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, PO Box 2801, Syracuse, NY
web <http://www.gmss.us> Volume 48 Issue 1 January 2017
209 Oswego St (Ponderosa Plaza), Unit 15, Liverpool, NY



The Extraordinary George Frederick Kunz

By Shannon Phillips

One of my favorite Christmas gifts this year was 320 carats of raw kunzite. I have several pieces of the pale pink stone in jewelry, although I don't usually gravitate toward that color, but this parcel contains rough pieces of the mineral in that are colorless, violet, and green in addition to pink. Technically, only the pink and lavender varieties are correctly identified as kunzite, named for the self-taught and wildly successful mineralogist George Frederick Kunz.

Like many of us, Kunz began collecting at an early age. His father, a German immigrant, was a baker with an interest in natural history. His mother, originally from Switzerland, raised George and his five younger siblings, first on the island of Manhattan, and later in Hoboken, NJ. At the time Kunz was living in New York, major excavations for buildings and subways were underway. There were ample opportunities for a boy to scramble down into the diggings and come away with a pocketful of treasure. After the family's moved to New Jersey, Kunz became especially interested in collecting zeolite minerals from the Palisades and Watchung Mountains. It is difficult to determine how, but Kunz is reported to have begun trading minerals with European collectors, perhaps his parents had contacts in that part of the world, and by the age of 14 had created a collection of over 4,000 specimens, labeled and identified, that he sold to the University of Minnesota in the 1870s. Kunz would go on to build several more important collections during his lifetime.

Although he had little formal schooling in mineralogy, geology, or gemology, Kunz's unwavering dedication was all he needed to make a career of his passion for gemstones. Around 1875, Kunz took a 27-1/2 carat green tourmaline, most likely acquired from Augustus C. Hamlin, M.D., whose family had been mining tourmaline in Maine for several decades, to the most prominent jeweler in New York and, allowing the stone's beauty to speak for itself, sold Charles Tiffany, founder of Tiffany & Company, his first tourmaline. After several other sales of semi precious stones, Kunz was offered a position as a gemologist for the most prominent jeweler in New York. He was 23 years old. Kunz continued to work for the company for 53 years, eventually becoming its vice-president. During his time with Tiffany, Kunz changed the gemstone market forever by introducing colored gemstones to the company's upscale clientele. Although colored stones were, and remain, far less expensive than diamonds,

Kunz himself wrote,

"... it seemed to me that many ladies, even those who could afford the gesture of diamond tiara and pearl choker, would be happy to array themselves in the endless gorgeous colors of these unexploited gems. As I looked over a collection of them, with the sunlight imprisoned in the sea-green depths of the tourmaline, lapping at the facets of the watery-blue aquamarine, flooding the blood-red cup of the garnet, glancing from the ice-blue edges of the beryl, melting in the misty nebula of the moonstone, entangled in the fringes of the moss agate, brilliantly concentrated in the metallic zircon, forming a milky star in the heart of the illusive star sapphire-bow, I thought, could a woman ever resist their appeal?" (Kunz, 1937)

Kunz traveled the world to bring an array of previously unseen gemstones into the public purview. In 1902, Kunz was the first to identify pink colored crystals as a unique variety of spodumene. Subsequently, the mineral was named in his honor. Fashions change over the years, but, despite the diamond industry's heavy influence over the market, particularly for engagement rings, colored stones are more popular than ever for everyday wear and for bridal jewelry.

In addition to this contribution to the world of gemology, Kunz was also a prolific writer who published over 300 books and articles during his lifetime, offering his knowledge, perspectives, and adventures for amateurs and professionals to enjoy and study into the modern day. Many of Kunz's books and articles are no longer limited by copyrights and are available online free of charge. His legacy is secure through his publications, the many collections he helped to build, and, most importantly, by the popularity of scores of semi precious stones we still enjoy.

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Secretary's Report

Board Meeting December 2, 2017



- Work will be underway soon to finish the workshop set up. Following the set up possible date for lapidary classes will be mid-February. Workshops will run one week night and on Saturdays.
- Per Keith Gilmer the new business cards are ready.
- The Christmas Sale went well, we will set another date for 2018 sale.
- Current membership: 133
- Bob Livingston has agreed to be our Eastern Federation delegate.
- Our Gem and Mineral Show dates are July 14 and 15. Eat your Wheaties and wear your best walking shoes again this year if you come to help pull this off.
- Our storage unit will cost \$10 more per month.
- The 2018 Christmas Party date is set for Sunday, December 9th. We will begin looking now to reserve a site.
- Rick Moore will be the speaker for January.
- Bus trip to the Buffalo Gem Show is March 24th,

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna L. Dow, Secretary

Upcoming Events

Jan 15 Jr Rockhounds Meet 6:30 Full Group Meeting 7:30

Rick Moore will be our meeting speaker. His topic will be "The Founders of the Study of Geology; the Present is the Key to the Past." He will talk about two geologists from the 1700's and how they developed the foundations of current geology.

After the meeting you can go online and select your favorite "Father/Mother of Geology"

<https://blogs.egu.eu/network/geosphere/2016/01/26/geopoll-who-do-you-think-most-deserves-the-title-father-of-geology/>

January 23rd 7 PM GemWorld Show

Committee The kickoff 2018 GemWorld Show committee meeting will be at the Gem Diner on Spencer Street. Join us at 6:00 for dinner, too.

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

March 24 - 25 Buffalo Geological Society Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show, Hamburg Fairgrounds

*We will have a bus going to this show. Stay tuned for more details.

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

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

Geo Lexis (Puzzle) By Anne Fitzgerald

Alexandrite was discovered in the 1800's in Russia. Most historians believe Alexandrite was

named for the future Russian Czar Alexander II. Even more than 200 years ago, people were trying to gain favor and impress people in power. A rare and color-changing gem, Alexandrite can be found in Russia and Mexico. Can we find Alexandrite in New York State? Yes, but probably only in a display or a jewelry store.

Alexandrite is special to me because it has lots of other words within it, making it my choice for this month's puzzle. I found 39 words within the word Alexandrite. 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.

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

Weather Alerts

In case of inclement weather and a club event has to be postponed:

- a notice will be sent to your email address, if we have it
- information will also be provided by local television stations
- a notice will be posted on our web site www.gmsss.us

Genesis and Classification of Agates and Jaspers: a New Theory by Marco Campos-Venuti Book review by Mark Oros

When talking with gemologists and jewelers, the topic eventually moves away from precious gems to agates and jaspers. This never fails to evoke a new level of enthusiasm with statements like, "I love agates and jaspers, they are my favorites." There is something about the beauty and fluidity of agates and jaspers that both enchants and mystifies.

When showing studio visitors samples of newly cut agates and jaspers, the question of how these stones were formed always arises. Until I read "Genesis and Classification of Agates and Jaspers:

a New Theory," by Marco Campos-Venuti, I would simply answer with one word -magic.

Magic is the simple version of explaining the formation of these natural wonders, but to understand the geological genesis and to see the real beauty of agates and jaspers, Marco Campos-Venuti provides a wonderful job of showing the intricate steps that transform silica solutions into the stones we collect, carve and display.

"Genesis and Classification of Agates and Jaspers: a New Theory" is written in such a fashion that it speaks to the beginning collector and to the professional geologist. Starting with classification and moving to genesis and facies, Marco Campos-Venuti takes the reader on a journey from the basic creation to the intricate subtleties of these gems.

After reading this book, I found myself revisiting my favorite agate and jasper specimens and using his explained methods of formation to decode their evolution and design. At first, I was worried that Marco Campos-Venuti's new book would take some of the mysterious charm of these stones away, but I was wrong, it only added to their intrigue.

This book shows the breakthroughs in research and new paths in understanding the geological formation of agates and jaspers, but that is only one level on which Marco Campos-Venuti addresses the genesis and classification of agates and jaspers. I am not one that will readily provide spoilers to books and movies, but I will make an exception in this case. The photographs are a major highlight of this book. The visual examples of agates and jaspers used come from some of the finest collectors and are some of the most beautiful examples that I have seen photographed.

I now have Marco Campos-Venuti's "Genesis and Classification of Agates and Jaspers: a New Theory" sitting in my studio next to a batch of newly cut agates, poised and waiting for the inevitable question of how these stones were formed. I am now able to expose the tricks and reveal the magic.

Open House & Holiday Sale By Judy Cook

December 2 was the club's 1st Open House and Holiday Sale at our new site in Liverpool.



Our dedicated Clubhouse Team transformed our meeting room and the space looked great. Folks were able to buy from several vendors; Deb Laun, Carlotta Brown, Linda Tanner, Joanne Suchon for Cheryl Brown, Mark Oros and his friend Mike (Hashnu Stones and Gems), Mourad Yaagoub (Village Morocco). Two of the vendors are new club members. We enjoyed demonstrations of of faceting as well by Mark Oros. Our meeting room was transformed into a gem and mineral shop.

We are going to do it again - so mark your calendar - December 8, 2018.

Marie Cole Lapidary Workshop News

Greetings from Joanne Suchon, Lapidary Chairperson

The GMSS Lapidary Group will soon begin to provide Lapidary Classes and open workshop hours in our Marie Cole Lapidary Workshop, 209 Oswego Street, Liverpool 13088.

ADULT CLASSES (17 years and over) will be starting 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

1. You must provide your own safety glasses
2. 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.
3. 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 be starting 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

1. Safety glasses will be provided
2. Each student must be accompanied by an adult
3. 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
4. You will learn how to make a hole in your finished cabochon, attach a jump ring and string a cord for a necklace

SIGNUP NOW! Call Joanne Suchon [315-440-4098](tel:315-440-4098)

Open Workshop Times will begin February 27th (tentative date). 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

Evening Hours are available upon request.

Contact Joanne [315-440-4098](tel:315-440-4098) to make arrangements.

In Memoriam John Davis 1915-2018



GMSS Life Member **John L. Davis** passed away after a brief illness on January 2, 2018. John was a true gentleman. I first met John when Joan and I joined GMSS in 1988 and in the next couple years we became buddies and I began to look up to him as a father figure as I had lost my Dad 20-years prior in 1971. Most of what I

share today was told to me by John, often during collecting trips in the 1990s and early 2000s. Family, forgive me if I get a place or date wrong in a couple instances below.

His Early Years

Born in February 1915, John, thru a mentor I believe, got into "digging rocks" in his youth. In the late 20s and into the early 30s he had two personal things going. He was already field-collecting. Hooked, he loved crystals. He worked in getting a college degree from Columbia in between. Curiosity led him into dabbling with *crystal* radios. By the mid 30s, John was working in the family business of butchering and selling fine meats and sausages (likely Kosher?) in Kingston, NY. He said in those days before refrigerated delivery trucks, chunking those huge, hundred-pound blocks of ice helped him develop good biceps. He rode or drove various of their trucks and delivered orders to regular customers. This also meant slinging whole sides of beef and ditto lamb. Being Jewish, pork was not too popular.

When war erupted in 1941, John knew his mid-20s would get him drafted for sure. So, he signed up and got into a new group called US Army Air Corps and ended up overseas in Hawaii involved in communication electronics and maintenance. He jumped at the chance to be trained in the *then new* Radar. Loved it and became a whizz at it. At some point he was sent to Europe. Just before the war John got his pilots license. He was always in his glory flying and was good at reading the clouds for probable storm/weather changes etc. Even in his final years he would study the clouds and pass on his weather prognosis to son Jared who also is a private pilot.

Post World War II

Our John pursued his education/ newly-gained electronic knowledge and landed a job at General Electric. That got him to Syracuse in the 1950s. Here, working at GE Heavy Military, his work took him back and forth between Syracuse and

Pittsfield, Mass. He and another guy did it so much they knew by heart, locations by the Thruway milepost marker numbers. Can you imagine?

He and wife Kelly, married 65 years, raised two sons and two daughters, in the F-M area. At GE, John by then a specialist with their radars, was sent several times overseas on trouble-shooting assignments in interesting places like Turkey, Greenland and I want to say Alaska. Of course his eyes were always on the lookout for crystals that he could unearth and bring back home.

It was also in the mid-1950s that John became one of the first new members of the forerunner to our Gem and Mineral Society which at that time met at at SU's Lyman Hall. John's charm and mineral interest got him in solid with the movers and shakers back then when field-collecting was in its hayday. Lucky them -- in those days they'd bring "easy-to-find" specimens home by the trunk load. If only we had that option still.

Couple Decades Later

In the 70s and 80s John held many of the slots in GMSS including club president. But believe it or not, his loyalties were split, as not only did he love unique crystals both in finding and owning, but just as strong was his attraction to stamp collecting, trading and buying and selling to get just those gummed goodies he most desired -- certain overseas stamps mostly. A great many of John's years at GE were in Tech Pubs where he dutifully wrote thick operating and maintenance manuals for ever more sophisticated radars. John hung it up at GE around 1980. That left plenty of time for serious collecting 'tho some of his favorite places were becoming played out. Always he practiced what he preached -- every one of his thousands of specimens had an ID # and was recorded in his collections book. For much of the 90s and early 2000s John was show chair of our club's annual GemWorld. So it was a natural as GMSS show chair that he would undertake and create a thick "Manual" on how to organize and handle the whole ball of wax as show chair. Dick Lyons has this book today.

In his 70s and into 90s, John had a great home garden in Manlius where he raised tomatoes, greens and cukes for salads plus a whole raft of produce and herbs. However, it was a forever battle as the deer were constantly beating him to his corn.

I recall especially three trips with John: one to the former quartz quarry dumps in Lynnhurst, Ontario, Canada. Here we came close to seeing the Mounties closeup when the landowner threatened for trespassing,. Another time, enroute to an EFMLS convention in Jackson, Mississippi, Joan and I and John and Lou Budell took a side jaunt to the famed Quartz quarries around Mt. Ida, Arkansas. The tail end of two days there, we three guys stood in the back of a speeding pickup truck on the roughest, worst washboard, 3-mile long dirt lane you can imagine. I wished I had not gone. Yet John came thru it like a champ. Lastly, John and I were near Bancroft, Canada on a two-day collecting trip, when in our motel at night over our Labor Day weekend we heard and saw on TV where Princess Di had lost her life in a tunnel crash in Paris.

Now, The Final Curtain

My, fellow members, we have lost a true treasure in our own coffee ice cream-loving, rock hammer-toting, Pastrami- enjoying John Davis. Recalling Old Testament scripture read at John's service -- "The eyes never get tired of seeing and the ears never get tired of hearing." The Rabbi who knew John well, felt that was certainly John. May those doctors and medical students learn much to benefit mankind from studying his unique long-lived, body donated to science.

John, we will miss your smile and kind, helpful ways greatly. And your, "Oh Well!" attitude. Shalom, dear friend.

Sympathy cards may be sent to: Davis Family, 5311 Rathbun Rd., Cazenovia, NY 13035.

by Bob Livingston, for the whole membership of the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse

My Friend, John Davis by **Steve Chamberlain**

John Davis was the longest surviving member of the great mineral collecting triumvirate that really put the Gem and Mineral Society on the map in the 1960s and 1970s. John, Ron Waddell, and Geoff Palin were ardent and expert field collectors who frequented localities in Northern New York, Ontario, and Quebec.

Returning to Syracuse from military service in 1973, I was eager to make contact with local mineral collectors—I had been a Pennsylvania specialist up to that point. One of my wife's students lived next to George and Marian Springs. They introduced me to their neighbor Ron Waddell and the door to the triumvirate was opened.

Early on, John, Ron, and Geoff took me on a whirlwind tour to localities in Ontario. The site I remember best was the Cardiff mine—a famous source for uraninite crystals. This is an extensive locality. Ron immediately began digging a hole. Geoff sampled and studied the geology, and John scouted far and wide. I immediately realized that if anyone was going to find anything unusual, it would be John.

Not long after that, John and Ron took me to the Steele mine on Black Rapids near Lyndhurst, Ontario. This famous quartz locality just blew my mind. Again, Ron packed hundreds of pounds of crystals onto the bed of my truck, I tried to follow suit, but John brought back some very interesting accessory minerals, including hematite crystals on quartz, bicolored calcite crystals, and quartz crystals embedded in grey clay that later turned out to contain rare earth minerals.

The early field trip that was to have the biggest impact on my collecting was a visit with John and Ron to the Mulvaney Sugarbush in 1978. Now called the Rose Road Wollastonite locality, this occurrence was then almost forgotten. John made a special point of showing me the wollastonite crystals, which he thought were particularly interesting and so did I. As it began to get dark, John suggested I pull my pickup truck as close to the locality as possible and continue collecting in the light of the headlights. This worked brilliantly, and the wollastonite specimen I

ultimately recovered is one of my favorites and has been figured in several papers and books.

As time went on, I began to rely more and more on John for information about earlier collecting and especially about local occurrences. When it came to mineral information, John never forgot anything. By the time he was 100, recall had slowed slightly, but his immense database was still intact, and he could pull out answers to questions with only a brief delay. John first recognized that the diNardo donation was mineralogically important and took me to see the material immediately. This kind of thing happened intermittently over a 30-year period.

After earning his degree from Columbia, John exemplified the idea that a college degree should enable you to learn on your own. His career and hobbies certainly demonstrated that. In a sense, John was a jack of all trades and a master of many of them. His mineralogy and crystallography expertise was deep and self-taught. His personal mental library about collectors and localities was unparalleled.

For the past number of years, John and I had lunch together on most Wednesdays. He would often bring along a specimen or two to discuss enroute. He also gave me all his Wall Street Journals each week with marked articles he thought I should read. In return, I would tell him about things I read online. How many 95-year-olds do that? As John became more frail, we abandoned our weekly trips to the Chinese buffet in favor of Carrabas at Town Center, where we quickly bonded with the staff. John always had the same order: decaf coffee, sirloin, and the vegetable of the day. He claimed the beef was consistently excellent, and he would know! By then, Bob Livingston had joined us on most Wednesdays, so now it is just Bob and Steve.

I already miss John terribly. He was a calm, bright, gracious man. He had an infectious laugh and appreciated a good joke. He often remarked to me that he "was still buying green bananas!" To me, he personified wisdom. I am just very grateful that circumstances granted me decades of his friendship. John was an awesome, decent man.

Possible Answers to Geo Lexis

Possible answers to Geo Lexis (Alexandrite)

aid aide ale and ate axe axel dane data deal dean
den deter dine diner drain eat eel edit end exit
land lane later lean lend lender need near neat
net rail rale read real rite tea teen tile

Scoring: 0-12: Rushin a bit too fast?
13-30: You deserve the royal treatment
31 or more: The crown jewel!

President's Message Mark Grasmeyer

Greetings GMSS Rockhounds!
I hope you all had a joyous and safe Holiday Season. Our Holiday Party certainly set the mood for the season. Although I have never been a big resolution person, I would really like to see our Marie Cole Education Center (workshop) full of club members. The Lapidary Committee is confident that it will be fully functional in a week or two. We need all club members to either sign up for a class, volunteer to cover our program hours or at least suggest programs that you would like to see. Please think outside of the box. Everybody has a slightly different interest in the hobby. So, bring your ideas to our January meeting next week. Rick Moore has been working on a new presentation "The Founders of the Study of Geology; the Present is the Key to the Past." Stay warm if you can...



Faceting Welo Opals by Mark Oros

Early 2012, I started carving Ethiopian Opal from the Welo District for my friends. They had invested in a speculative amount of this new-to-the-market gemstone. I quickly fell in love with this stone and in addition to turning their rough into cabochons, I also was purchasing rough and turning out my own cabochon stock. However, we quickly ran into two problems - everybody favored the darker base and flash of the Australian opal or they had heard rumors of stability issues of the Ethiopian opal. The rumors of the stability are now proving false and ironically, the performance of the Welo opal is actually favorable, but I still had a hard time competing with the current trend of darker opal.

One day, I had a couple missteps with orienting a nice opal nodule and decide to increase my odds with capturing the fire and color play by faceting the opal. The result had me and everyone that saw the finished stone in awe of the continuous flash as it rolled in my hand. I reordered my cutting priorities and faceted several more Welo opals trying different designs and exploring the

translucency of the opals. I contacted some of my favorite buyers that previously liked my opal cabs to show them the newly faceted opals. To put it in economic terms, the faceted opals out-sold the cabs.

There is nothing new about faceted opals. One can find them lurking on many Internet sites and occasionally in a jeweler's showcase, but usually they are small and lacking in the fire of a top-quality opal cabochon. Given the growing acceptance of the Welo opal's stability and the now cumbersome process and increased expense of exporting Welo opals from Ethiopia, we are beginning to see a greater demand and increased price for this beautiful gemstone. I believe that the Welo opal cabochon will find its place along side the Australian opal in fine jewelry stores in the very near term, but in the meantime, I am having too much fun faceting them for my buyers to think about me going back to cabbing.

Here are some things to consider when faceting Welo opal along with the process I take from rough to finished.

Considerations

Crystal vs. Seam - The majority of Welo opal is crystal nodule based and not seam based. This gives the freedom to approach the opal from a full 360 degrees. I always remove the potch and polish the whole surface of the opal before orientation.

Translucent vs. Opaque - Welo opals can be very translucent when compared to other opal stock. I pick the most transparent of the rough to facet in hopes of getting some light return from the faceted stone.

Checkerboard vs. Large Table Design - Depending on the translucency of the opal and the type of flash, I will choose either a checkerboard or large table cut.

<u>Checkerboard</u>	<u>Large Table</u>
Opaque	Translucent
Broad Flash	Pin Fire
Random Color	Patterns
Oblong Shape	Round Shape

Based on the above criteria, I then orient the stone in a similar fashion to other material, selecting a design to retain carat weight and orienting the best color to the crown.

If you have any type of fissure crack or heavy veil, it is safe to assume that the stress put on the opal during the faceting phase will cause the opal

to crack. Do not use those stones or cut out the fault.

Opals are prone to chipping during the faceting and jewelry setting phases. For this reason, I avoid designs with dramatic points (or I blunt them with an additional facet) and I always triple my girdle width. It is also advisable to put a culet or pavilion table on each stone.

Please keep in mind that most Welo opals are hydrophane in nature and will become very transparent during their contact with water. Sometimes they become so transparent that it becomes difficult to observe your faceting progress. If this happens, let the opal dry naturally for an hour or two. Never use oils with hydrophane opals.

ALL ABOUT ROCK PETS
(Author is unknown)
Submitted by Bob Livingston

They are such patient little things.
They simply sit and wait,
They do not fly afar on wings,
Or, being ignored, hate.
They do not dirty up the floor,
Neglected, do not cry.
They never fight, and what is more,
They never cheat or lie.
You take a likely piece of rock,
A pebble round or two,
A feather or a wooden flock,
And then some Elmer's glue.
You gaze a little at the things
You've gathered, seeing there:
A dog? A duck? A 'thing' with wings?
A tramp with fuzzy hair?
Imagination rampant, cries:
What can you shape from that?
A frog, a snake, a bird that flies?
An elephant, a cat?
The world is yours: stones so abound:
Inventiveness just races;
And soon you have a flock around,
Of friends with smiling faces.
A rock, four pebbles, and some glue:
For children sick of toys.
Oh, mother, think how cheap for you;
What fun for girls and boys.



Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse
PO Box 2801
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First Class Mail
January 2018
 Time Dated Material



www.amfed.org www.amfed.org/efmls scribe.rbnet.net

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.

General Meetings 7:30 - 3rd Monday of the month
Jr Rockhounds Meet at 6:30 (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>

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We are looking for volunteers, contact Donna at secretary@gmss.us for more info