



1999, 2000, & 2001 EFMLS
Trophy Winning Newsletter

CRACK 'N CAB

AUCTION & MINERAL CONTEST

For Monday, April 19th, we will have a double header. Not only our annual **Mineral & Fossil Contest** but also the **Mineral & Fossil Auction**. Go to your special storage area and dust off those spectacular specimens you were saving for the Mineral Contest and remember to bring the extras and any hobby related items to donate or to sell in the auction. The auction is usually one of the best attended events of the club calendar, so get there early in order to fill out the auction slips and put those special items in the Mineral Contest. The action starts at 7:30 PM. Be there!



This "little" quartz specimen was one of many choice specimens offered in last years auction.

Photo by L. Patterson

Inside this issue:

President's Message	3
Executive & Reg. Meeting Minutes	2
Coming Events	3
Mineral Contest Rules	5
Visit a Show	6
Auction Rules	6
Lapidary Contest Rules (for May)	7

Special points of interest:

- Beading Group meets at 6:30 PM.
- Youth Group meets at 6:30 PM
- Regular Meeting meets at 7:30 PM
- Refreshments after the program provided by Donna Contrastan
- Guests are always welcome

Beading News

Submitted by Cathy Patterson

According to reports received while Loren and I were out of town, the beading group is going quite well. Two fellow beaderns completed bracelets and the youth group worked on earrings with help from **Rollie Allen**.

Purchasing of supplies will be discussed at the next meeting so make up a needs list. Bring your beading materials and tools and be ready to work on a project of your choice before the regular meeting April 19, at 6:30 PM.

How Do I Get Started?

Have a plan in mind.

- What color combinations appeal to you?
- What style do you prefer? Delicate? Earthy? Dressy? Flashy?
- Cut out jewelry designs you like from fashion catalogs and start an idea file.
- Sketch out your design ideas.

Poetry by a GMSS Club Member

A SHOW FOR ALL AMERICA

For meetings and shows, a rock hound knows
The road is to Syracuse.
Its paved in quartz and garnet gems *C. D. Smith*
And well worn by our use.



The splendor of quartz calls out to all
In welcome to New York's Upstate.
American Federation Clubs,
Come, help us celebrate!

At last, our chance in all these years
To host you gems of friends
You'll come from east, west, north and south.
To all, our warmth extends.

We offer comforts and fellowship
At our convention site,
Superb exhibits and retail wares,
Hands-on for young ones' delight.

So, aim for that highway of garnet and quartz
Just west of Baum's Yellow Brick Road
And share and enjoy the fantasy worlds
That Earth's hidden strata hold.

(Photo by L. Patterson)

C. D. Smith

Executive Meeting Minutes – March 8th

Gem Club officers continued to go over plans for our biggest Gem and Mineral Show in an executive committee meeting March 8 at the home of **Club President Jay Tinker**. With the July 9-11, show tied to the Eastern Federation and American Federation Convention, **Bob Livingston** again pointed out how much help we will need to make the show a success. We have asked other area clubs to help staff the event at the State Fairgrounds. The March Crack 'N Cab included a detailed outline of our plans for July in a letter sent by Bob to AFMS/EFMLS members.

The board agreed to have commemorative pins and T-shirts for people working at the show and for others who might like a souvenir of this event.

Also discussed were plans for our regular club meetings, e.g. the April auction and the beading class scheduled an hour before the meeting.

Regular Club Meeting - March 15th

Did you know that Rapa Nui, aka Easter Island, is in the vast Pacific Ocean 2500 miles from anywhere? Or that the Polynesian Empire was formed 1400 years ago and that Dutch explorers found the island in 1492? Len Sharp treated those who attended the March Gem Club meeting to an informative slide show. We also learned that the Easter Island statues are made of welded tuft, a volcanic rock, artisans used obsidian and basalt to carve the 900 plus statues. The statues with the long ears represented the ruling class, while the ones with short ears represent the commoners. The ruling class put long heavy platelets in their ears to make them longer.

Len also pointed out that walls similar to those on Easter Island could be found in Peru. The Polynesians also surrounded a rock called the navel of the world with other rocks in the belief that mankind originated there, interestingly the same setup of rocks can be found in other areas of the world.

Club member **Dave Arcaro** opened the March meeting with a show-and-tell about the interesting minerals he has found on the shore of Onondaga Lake. Dave wanted to show that interesting things could be found in our own city and region.

Some of those who arrived early joined a beading class led by **Carrie Gannett**. Rollie Allen helped a few of the juniors in making bead earrings. Other club members helped **Bob Livingston** stuff envelopes being sent to EFMLS folks with information on our July show.

Winners in the monthly drawing were **Bill Royer, John Sweeney, Chet Parrow** and **Rollie Allen**. **Gene Ridall** also had a drawing of some things donated by **Shamus Walker**, who has moved to Florida. Gene also urged members to enter their finds in the April mineral and fossil contest. The contest was to have been held in March but there were too few entries. There also will be an auction in April.

Rollie Allen provided refreshments for the meeting.

Photo by L Patterson

Minutes submitted by Rollie Allen



President's Message**Spring Cleaning**

Auction Time! It's time to clean out those collections and make room for this summer's field trip finds. This is a great way for you to pass on some of those extra specimens that you couldn't bring yourself to walk away from. We will again be having a table for "Kids only" auction items. If you have something you really want to see go to a young person, then make sure you put it on the "Kid's only" table.

We also have a big bag of gravel from the Montana El-Dorado E-Monster sapphire mine. This is washed concentrated gravel from the famed mining location of the El-dorado bar. We will be dividing up this gravel and auctioning it off. Check their Website at <http://www.sapphiremine.com>.

Don't forget this month's meeting is also the re-scheduled Mineral and Fossil contest! Show off the best of your collections. Note, with out more participation, this may be the last year we hold these events.

Museum of the Earth:

We have scheduled two workdays at PRI's Museum of the Earth in Ithaca. They are Saturday April 24th and Saturday May 1st - noon to 3 or 4 pm. We will be working for the Collections Manager, Amy Moe. She has asked our club for help doing an inventory of the hundreds of boxes of specimens that have been stored away at PRI for years now. She needs our experience with rocks, which means people that know the importance of careful handling and keeping the right label with the right rock.

She also has some steel shelves they received recently from Cornell that need to be assembled.

All those participating will be able to tour the Museum and see the collections behind the scenes.

See me at our meeting for directions.



**Club President
Jay Tinker**

Photo by L. Patterson

May 1st - Brownville Swap

by Loren Patterson

May is coming up fast and the collecting season starts with Brownville. To get on the list for this event, let Jay Tinker know you plan to attend so that we may submit a count to **Marion Wheaton**. (315-589-8710) This is a gem of an event that occurs early in the season and is often surprisingly under-attended. Drawing prizes, auction items, swap/sell tables, and a home cooked dinner to follow the auction. Don't forget to bring a decent specimen, tool or hobby related item to donate for their auction and pay for your dinner.

Swap/sale is 1:00 PM

Auction is 4:00 PM

Dinner is 6:00 PM

Directions to Brownville: From Syracuse, take Route 81 North to Watertown, get off at the 2nd Watertown exit, Coffeen Street, and then turn left on Route 12F. About 2 miles from the exit, watch for a sign for Brownville, turn right and cross the bridge over the river, then left turn to 1st right turn. Watch for St. Paul's Church on the right, park along street; go to the Parish Hall next to the church.

May 1st Fulton County Show

Just east down the Thruway, to Johnstown, NY another event on May 1st and 2nd the **FULTON COUNTY MINERAL CLUB GEM - MINERAL - FOSSIL SHOW & SALE** Saturday, May 1st, 2004 10-5 Sunday, May 2nd, 2004 10-5 THE SHOW IS AT A NEW LOCATION!!!

THE JOHNSTOWN MOOSE LODGE ROUTE 30A JOHNSTOWN NY (ACROSS FROM EAGLE CHEVROLET)

** Gems * Crystals * Minerals * Fossils * Jewelry * Unique Gifts for Mother's and Father's Day * Mineral Wood & Stone Carvings ** Door Prizes * Displays * Mineral Identification ** ** Books & Magazines * Food * Much More ** Adults \$4.00/ Students \$2.00 - Children under 12 FREE. For more information contact: Fulton County Chamber of Commerce 1-800-676-3858 or E-mail to: Val Collins - vcollins@nycap.rr.com

Directions: >From Thruway, Get off at Exit 28 Fonda-Fultonville. Follow the signs for Rt. 30A North. Go approximately 4 miles. The Moose Lodge is on the left up on a hill. Look for the show signs.

If you go to the **Fulton County Show**, be sure to take the free raffle ticket for a chance on an amethyst cathedral on page 4 of this newsletter.



Field Trips Coming Up

May 8th, 2004

Penfield New York: Penfield Dolomite Quarry Open House 7:00AM till 1:00PM. This is open to the public, **The Dolomite Products Quarry** at Penfield, NY will be having an Open House for Mineral Collecting on Saturday May 8 from 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM (although they have remained open later in the past). Please bring steel toed shoes, hard hat, and safety goggles. You may arrive anytime between the open and closing hours, just be sure and sign in at the office. Dolomite Products, Penfield Quarry – NY Thruway to 490 East towards Rochester, avoid route 390, take 490 East to 590 North to exit for Browncroft Rd (route 286) Browncroft turns into Atlantic Ave. Watch for traffic light intersection with Whalen Rd. at grove of pine trees. Make Right onto Whalen. Pass golf course on Right, quarry entrance is on left. Enter open gate, bear right to

parking area, sign in at garage/office. Please remember your safety equipment.

From NEFTA Field Trip Newsletter 4/04 via SSG. Jake Kramer, E-mail: <speedyjake@aol.com>

May 8th, 2004

Wayne County Gem and Mineral Club's NEFTA Dig **Fayette Quarry, Fayette, New York Fossils –** Devonian limestone fossils, corals, brachs, trilobites. Fayette Quarry is just south of Seneca Falls off Route 414. Contact Tim Hart for more information.

from Wayne County Gem and Mineral Club News 3/04

May 29, 2004.

Orange Co. Club, Ellenville, NY. quartz, pyrite, & galena also a trip to the Sunray tunnel
From NEFTA Field Trip Newsletter 4/04 via SSG. Jake Kramer, E-mail: <speedyjake@aol.com>

DISCOUNT COUPON

BRING MOM, DAD, THE KIDS AND GRANDPARENTS

ALL FOR ONLY \$5.00 or 50% INDIVIDUAL DISCOUNT

FULTON COUNTY MINERAL CLUB GEM - MINERAL - FOSSIL SHOW & SALE

RAFFLE TICKET

BRING TICKET TO THE SHOW FOR FREE RAFFLE TICKET OF A DRAWING FOR AN AMETHYST CATHEDRAL \$150.00 VALUE

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL _____ PHONE: _____

I HEARD ABOUT THIS SHOW FROM: ___NEWSPAPER AD ___ FLYERS ___RADIO ___MAGAZINES ___ OTHER

Mineral & Fossil Specimen Contest Rules

1. Members in good standing may enter specimens collected personally, that have not been entered in a prior Mineral Contest of the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, as well as specimens purchased. See Silver Pick rules below. Limit one entry per category.

2. Divisions- . Senior Division - members 18 years of age and over
Junior Division - members under 18 years of age.

3. Categories: Minerals: a) Cabinet specimens - 2x3" or larger
b) Thumbnails and miniatures - under 2x3"
c) Micro-minerals, mounted or not mounted, requiring magnification.
. d) Suites - a group of specimens of any size from one location.
. (Micromounts excluded because of judging time limitations)
. Fossils: one specimen, any size

4. Specimens may be mounted or not mounted, cleaned, trimmed, etc. to make them more attractive but may not be lacquered or otherwise coated (except fossils).

5. Points in judging will be awarded by the following schedule:

	3A+3B	3C	3D	Fossils
QUALITY	70	60	70	65
RARITY	10	10	10	10
LABELING	10	10	10	15
ORIENTATION		10		
SHOWMANSHIP	10	10	10	10

Quality: freedom from damage; attractiveness, aesthetic appeal, luster

Rarity: rareness, which increases a specimen's desirability as a species, locality, crystal form, etc.

Labeling: Minerals: a) Species (Fleisher's "Glossary of Mineral Species" is a suggested reference)
b) Variety if appropriate
c) Locality

Fossils: a) Phylum and class
b) Locality, including geological period and rock formation if possible

Correct spelling **is** important. Do **NOT** put your name on the label.

Competitors are encouraged to provide a second label with information about the rarity or significance of the specimen.

Orientation: Competitors entering micro minerals are encouraged to include a microscope if possible. Otherwise micros should be oriented to view from above.

6. Prizes for self-collected entries: Awards will be based on point achievement only.

First Place - a blue ribbon for highest score with a minimum of 80 points

Second Place - a red ribbon for second highest score with a minimum of 70 points.

Third Place - a yellow ribbon for third highest score with a minimum of 60 points

In addition, all specimens scoring over 60 points will receive an honorable mention if a ribbon is not awarded.

7. **Silver Pick** (purchased specimen) Contest: For members who purchased their entry during the past year. Categories are the same as in #3 above. Judging and points will be the same, but no ribbons will be issued.

8. The club shall provide 2 qualified judges who will indicate, on a scorecard with each entry, the points awarded and any helpful comments for the competitor's information (time permitting).

9. The contest may be entered by proxy.

Auction Rules

Only members in good standing are allowed to place items for bid. Dues should be paid prior to auction date or by check on auction night.

Anyone present may bid on items for sale.

Each member is allowed to submit up to 5 items for which the club will retain 15% of the selling price.

Members are allowed to donate items to the club in any number if the total selling price is to remain with the club.

If you feel you must place a minimum price on your item, you may. If the minimum price is not received, the item will be removed from the auction.

Minimum opening bid will be \$1.00 unless the owner of the item has indicated a greater minimum bid.

No raises will be accepted in amounts less than \$0.25.

Bidding will be by number only, so sign up and receive your bidding number when entering the meeting room on the night of the auction.

Colored slips will be available at the sign-in desk for donated items and will require the same identification as the slips with the sale items.

Items for sale (except for donations) will be placed on tables by "letters". The order of sale for the tables will be by lottery. Donations will be placed at random.

Please pay the treasurer before leaving on the night of the sale. For those persons whose sales exceed purchases, the treasurer will mail you a check for your share of the sale

Any item not picked up after the auction will become Club property and may be used for future door prizes.

Visit A Show

from William Lema



May:

1: Brownville Swap/Sell

sponsored by the Jefferson County Rock & Mineral Club, St. Paul's Church Parish Hall, Brownville, NY

1-2: Annual New England Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the North Shore Rock and Mineral Club. Topsfield Fairgrounds, Route 1 North, Topsfield, Mass. For info: email donna@nahant.com or visit our website:<www.nahant.com.nsrn>.

1 - 2: 1 st Annual Mineral, Fossil & Gem Show sponsored by the Mineralogical Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania. St. Joseph's Oblates Seminary, Rt 315; Pittston, PA.

1-2: Gem - Mineral - Fossil - Jewelry - Gift Show sponsored by the **Fulton County Mineral Club**. NEW LOCATION: Moose Club, Rt 30A; Johnstown, NY

22 - 23: RD Annual Northeast Reunion Meeting sponsored by the Micromounters of New England. The Elks Lodge, 91 Park Street, Hudson, MA

22: Annual Swap/Sell at Goucher sponsored by the Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Society. Goucher College, Kraushaar Auditorium Pavilion. Dulaney Valley Rd just off I-695, Towson, MD.

22-23: 21st Annual Gem and Mineral Show sponsored by the Maine Mineralogical & Geological Society. Finley Gym, University of New England, 716 Stevens Ave., Portland, ME contact Wes Baker, (207)784-1738; email: wesbton@adelphia.net.

July

9-11: Combined EFMLS/AFMS Convention & Show sponsored by the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse. NY State Fairgrounds, Syracuse. NY. (AFMS meetings July 7 & 8).

August

6-8: 55th annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show sponsored by The Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Washington, DC. Ramada Inn, New Carrollton, MD.

7-8: 34th Annual Mid-State Gem & Mineral Show, sponsored by the WaterOak Gem and Mineral Society. Mount Merici School, 152 Western Ave., Waterville, ME.

September:

18-19: 39th Annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show, sponsored by the Central Pennsylvania Rock and Mineral Club. The Zembo, Third and Division Streets, Harrisburg, PA

25-26: 40th Annual Atlantic Coast Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show sponsored by the Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore, Inc. Howard County Fairgrounds, I-70 at MD 32, W. Freindship, MD.

from EFMLS News 04/04

**Lapidary Contest Rules
for May 17th Competition**

1. **Eligibility** – Any member in good standing may enter one item in each category, either in person or by proxy.
Junior Division – Age under 16.
Senior Division – 16 and over.
2. Entry *must* have been made by competitor, must not be signed or otherwise identified, *must not* have been previously entered in Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse Lapidary Competition.
3. Chains are not necessary and will not be judged in **Category 105 – Jewelry**.
4. Chains may be entered in **Category 103 Metal craft**.
5. **Ribbons** will be awarded as follows:
 Score of 90 and above – Blue Ribbon
 Score of 80 and above – Red Ribbon
 Score of 70 and above – Yellow Ribbon
6. In the event of more than one blue, red, or yellow ribbon in a given category, the competitor will also receive a certificate stating “placement” i.e.: blue, first; red, second; yellow, third etc. at the discretion of the judges.
7. **“Ribbon Winners”** only will be announced. No scores will be given.
8. In all matters, *Decision of the Judges will be Final*.

CATEGORIES FOR ENTRIES

- 101 Cabochons** – Unset only. Freeform or calibrated, natural or man-made material may be used.
No Plastic allowed. *(See Notes)
- 102 Faceted Stone** – Unset only. Natural or man-made material may be used. No Plastic allowed. (See notes.)
- 103 Metal craft (Fabrication)** – Commercially cut stone may be used, as only metalwork will be judged.

104 Metal craft (Casting) – Commercially cut stone may be used, as only metalwork will be judged.

105 Jewelry – Stone, if used, must have been cut by competitor, as both stone and metalwork will be judged.

106 Wire wrap – Wirework only will be judged.

107 Novelty – May include chip inlay using epoxy, if desired; fused glass enamel on metal base formed by competitor. No commercial metal base may be used. Enter this category, within the rules, any item that does not fit into one of the other categories.

108 Carving – It’s wide open whether you use power tools or hand chisels, files, etc. as long as the work was done by the competitor.

* **Notes** (Applicable to Categories **101** and **102** above)
 “Manmade” means reconstructed turquoise, lapis, malachite, etc. or laboratory-grown synthetics such as chrysoberyls, corundum, etc.

“PERFECT” STARTING SCORE PER CATEGORY								
Judging Criteria	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Category Numbers (Maximum Points)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Design		20	35	35	35	35	40	30
Symmetry	30							
Girdle	25	20						
Meets		30						
Finish	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	25
Orientation	15							
Workmanship			35	35	35	35		
Originality							30	30
Difficulty in Cutting Material								15

Directions for using chart ~ Find category(s) you wish to enter and read down in that column. Whenever points are shown, item will be judged for those criteria with point score being max in that category. All columns add to 100 points maximum at the start of judging.

P.O. Box 801

Syracuse, New York 13201



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APRIL 2004

Time Dated Material



Crack 'N Cab



Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse, Inc.

Officers 2002-2003

President	Jay Tinker	696-8274
Vice-President	Tim Hart	625-4485
Treasurer	Lou Budell	673-1891
Secretary	Roland Allen	xxx-xxxx
Show Chairmen	John Davis & Gene Ridall	
Sergeant-at-Arms	David Zobkiw	xxxxxxxx

Librarian	Cathy Patterson	638-8817
Sunshine	Gloria Royer	677-3730
Refreshments	Joan Livingston	446-4505
Editor	Loren Patterson	638-8817

7725 Van Buren Rd.
Baldwinsville, NY 13027

lorenpatterson@gmss.us
Visit us online at: <http://www.gmss.us>

Permission is hereby granted to reprint material contained in the Crack 'N Cab if proper credit is given to the author, if known, and this bulletin.

Eight persons 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 name.

The objectives of the Society are to stimulate interest in mineralogy, paleontology, and the lapidary arts. Individual interests include collecting, identification, and display of minerals and fossils, and many aspects of jewelry design and fabrication.

The monthly meetings stimulate the social and educational factors. Frequent field trips provide collectors with opportunities to find specimens as well as to enjoy the benefits of outdoor exercise and potential friendships. The Society meets on the third Monday of every month at 7:30 PM in the Parish House of the First Presbyterian Church, 620 West Genesee Street, Syracuse, New York.

Visitors are always welcome.

Annual membership dues:

Single Adult - \$6
Junior - \$3
Family - \$9

Honorary Life Membership - \$3

For more information write to the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, P.O. Box 801, Syracuse, New York 13201

