



1999, 2000, 2001, & 2002 EFMLS Trophy Winning Newsletter. 1st Place Award in Mini Bulletins from EFMLS in 2003 and 1st Place Award in Mini Bulletins from AFMS in 2003 also 1st Place Award in 2004 from EFMLS in Small Bulletins.

CRACK 'N CAB

Happy Holidays



At this year's Christmas Dinner, previously known as the Holiday Brunch, club president, John Sweeney read the names of members recently reaching life membership status. He went on to list the names of all lifetime members (twenty years of membership). Certificates were given to all life members present at the gathering. More on page 3.

Inside this issue:

Minutes	2
Cancellation Procedure	3
Holiday Dinner Event	3
Visit a Show	4
EFMLS News	4
Beading/Email	5

Photo by Loren Patterson

Cathy Patterson listens as Club President John Sweeney read the names of all life members duly recorded.

Special points of interest:

- No meeting this month. The Holiday Dinner on Dec. 4th took the place of a regular meeting. The next regular meeting will be on Monday, Jan. 17th at 7:30 PM.
- Guests are always welcome.

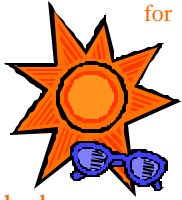
Former Officer Passes On

It is with deep sadness we report that **Bill Royer** has passed on December 1, 2004. We remember Bill as an active and interested member of the Gem and Mineral Society who served as Vice President. Bill was an avid fossil collector who went on many trips sponsored by the PRI. He was a permanent volunteer at the PRI exhibit every year at the Gem Show. Bill also was a volunteer at University Hospital in Syracuse, the PRI in Ithaca, and the MOST museum in Syracuse. He will be missed by the many organizations that he helped.

He served as a co-pilot of a B29 in the Pa-

cific Theater of WWII. After the war, he was employed as a metallurgist at Crucible Steel. He was also a member of the Lafayette Optimists, the Fayetteville Masons and for several years was a Boy Scout leader. A moment of silence was given in his honor at the Christmas dinner where he and wife, Gloria, were to have shared the meal with us. Our heartfelt thoughts go to Gloria and their family. Bill will be much missed.



Sunshine News*Submitted by Cathy Patterson*

for Gloria Royer, our Sunshine Lady We'd like to spread a little sunshine on **Harry Perkins** who has had a bout with pneumonia this fall and missed the Christmas dinner because of it. Irene says he's feeling better and better.

Margaret Norris will need some sunny, warm fuzzies after her knee surgery December 30. Mend well and speedy Margaret!

Much caring warmth goes out to **Gloria Royer** and family since Bill's passing early this month.

If you know any club member needing a card or call dial 638-8817 and sunshine will be on the way, speedy quick!

Welcome back to **Hunter Berthelot** who has recently returned to Syracuse from sunny Florida. Glad to have you back, Hunter!

Free! Free! Free!*Submitted by Cathy Patterson*

The club has 3 exhibit cases in need of a new home. The cramped quarters of our storage room downstairs of the church is no longer suitable for them. These cases would be great for a personal collection or for a youth group to use to display mineral/fossil samples. Please see one of the club officers about adopting one or all of these vintage cases.

Executive Meeting Minutes*Submitted by Cathy Patterson
Club Secretary*Nov. 8th, 2004**Old Business:
Holiday Dinner**

Final details for the Christmas dinner at the new location, First Universalist Church of Central Square, were discussed. **Tim Hart** and **Loren Patterson** will be in charge of gifts for everyone attending. Life members will be recognized and door prizes will be given.

Microscope Camera

Discussion continues about what will be done with the club's microscope and camera still in storage.

October Auction

Checks will be given out to those whose items were sold at the October Auction. **Dave** Arcaro, our treasurer, had a very good reason why the checks were delayed. He became the proud father of baby Dylan the night of the auction October 19! Congratulations **Dave** and Mom on the birth of their son!

**New Business
Phone Tree**

A plan was discussed as to how we will notify the rest of the membership of a meeting cancellation due to bad weather. More information elsewhere in this bulletin.

Cabbers Needed

Susan McHamer from Syracuse Univ. has asked our club if we could provide someone(s) to give a talk and a demonstration to her students on making cabochons. If you would like to volunteer to do this, please see **John Sweeney**.

Shared Membership List

Some discussion about sharing the membership list resulted in no clear way to go about respecting privacy issues. More discussion is needed.

Programs in 2005

January – Steve Chamberlain (to be confirmed)

February - Safety issues by **John Davis** and a short talk by the beading group on what they've been up to. (to be confirmed)

Regular Meeting Minutes*Submitted by Cathy Patterson*Nov. 15th, 2004

Meeting began 7:40 PM with 36 members present

Old Business:

A metal smith instructor at Syracuse University is looking forward to having a GMSS member help with classes there.

Gem Show 2005

Gene Ridall reminded us we need a show chairman or woman. Please consider volunteering for this most important job. You will have plenty of help and guidance from previous chairmen. We are going back to the 2-day format next year.

MOST Mineral ID

John Davis and **Dick Ackerman** have been meeting every Tuesday and Thursday at the Museum of Science and Technology to label and catalog their mineral collection donated by "Doc" Duggan.

Bad Weather Phone Tree

The plan for calling a meeting cancelled was explained. Members would call one of the board officers (see back page for phone numbers) if in doubt as to whether you should venture out on a stormy Monday night January – March (hopefully there will be no snow storms in April!)

New Business:

Volunteers are needed for refreshments for January and beyond.

Lou Budell, "world famous" megalodon shark tooth collector, showed off his grand prize from a PRI field trip to a Maryland fossil area early this fall. **Gloria Royer** shared a list of kinds of shark teeth on a ditto to help identify the many different shark and ray teeth Lou also had on display.

Door Prizes:

Margaret Norris, Bill Royer, Dave Zobkiw were winners of the evening's door prizes.

Program: Ursula Smith, a graduate student from South London, interning at PRI, was the guest speaker this evening. She spoke about species identification, more specifically, how one can tell the subtle differences between very similar mollusks. Some audience participation made the talk go smoothly. Miss Smith has been doing research in this area and shared her expertise with us on this topic. Thanks to **Jay Tinker** for arranging Miss Smith's visit.

Holiday Dinner A Success

by Loren Patterson

The dinner party at the First Universalist Church in Central Square on December 4th was very much a success. Thanks to Tim Hart who suggested this new location and thanks also to the church's staff that prepared the dinner, the whole event went very smoothly. I thought I saw two or three of the cooks that strongly resembled some of our own members. Perhaps it was the wine that I enjoyed upon arriving for the dinner that produced this illusion. It felt very much like one of our club picnics, minus the barbeque pit.

Thank you, Tim Hart for promoting your Universalist Church. There is always a risk associated with changing from our usual location to one that is unknown. I know a few of our members might have been hesitant to travel so far and they may need to rethink their decision if it is decided to do this again for next year's bash. Overall, everyone I spoke to seemed to be happy with the new location. The food was tasty and plentiful. The banquet room was just the right size and we didn't have to share it with anyone. The wine before dinner was very modestly priced and the pieces of pie were abundant. That is, except for the banana cream. I plan to be a little quicker making my pie selection next year.



Photo by L. Patterson

After dinner, John Sweeney read the names of two new life members, Cindy Napiorkowski and Brian Kiniry. (Life membership occurs when a person has accumulated twenty years of paid up annual dues) Certificates were presented to all life members present at the dinner to recognize their status as life members of this Society. All life members not present at the dinner will receive their certificate at the next meeting or by mail before.

Many toys were brought to the dinner and donated for the Marine's Toys for Tots Program. This has been a tradition now for several years and is greatly appreciated by those receiving the toys.

Toy's for Tots

Submitted by Loren Patterson

This year's Toys for Tots were handed over directly to the Salvation Army as suggested by the Marine Corp as The Salvation Army is the organization responsible for distributing them. Cathy and I accompanied Bob Livingston to The Salvation Army Headquarters in Syracuse to assist in the presentation.

Photo by L. Patterson



Cathy Patterson, Major John Morrison, and Bob Livingston at The Salvation Army Headquarters.

A day or two after this photo was taken, we received a very nice letter of thanks from Major Morrison who said, "We appreciate your support. We could not do what we do without it. Your

support and the support of literally thousands of people make it possible for The Salvation Army to make a difference in the lives of people who are often desperate with no place to turn."

The letter will be available at the January meeting.

Meeting Cancellation Procedure

Submitted by Cathy Patterson

It has been suggested that we have a plan set up to cancel a meeting in the *unlikely event of bad weather this winter*. It is true we are a hardy lot who will come out to our meeting in a snowstorm. After all, who but rockhounds would traipse through brambles, climb down slippery slopes, hike up craggy hills, and even burrow into caves underground to find the perfect specimen? However, if the weather looks threatening to you and the radio and TV predict bad weather you can call one of our club officers to get the final word on whether our Monday night meeting will be canceled. Our prez will, by 5:00 – 5:15PM have made an executive decision and will relay that message to the rest of the board members. If in doubt, call one of the people on the back page of your Crack 'N Cab. We probably won't get any bad weather this year, ya think?!

Congratulations to the David Arcaro Family

Dylan Arcaro was born October 19(?) and will likely be our newest rock hound superstar in a few years. Congratulations to the Arcaros!



EFMLS News

Visit a Show

from William Lema

**February 2005**

26-27: 12th Annual James Campbell Memorial Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the **Capital District Mineral Club** and the New York State Academy of Mineralogy. **New York State Museum**, Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY.

March

5-6: Annual Gems, Minerals, Fossils and Meteorite Show, sponsored by Excalibur Mineral Corp. and hosted by the **New York Mineralogical Club**. Holiday Inn — Midtown, 440 W.57th Street, New York City, NY.

12-13: 16th Annual Clifton Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the North Jersey Mineralogical Society. Pope John Paul II Elementary School, 775 Valley Rd; Clifton, NJ

18 -20: 36th Annual Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Show and 55th EFMLS Convention & Show. Athens Township Fire Hall, Sayre, PA. Show March 19-20. EFMLS Annual Meeting – March 18.

April:

1-3: Atlantic Micromounters Conference sponsored by the Micromounters of the National Capital Area. MD Hospital Center, Elkridge, MD. For info & registration, contact Steve Weinberger <cweinber@bcpl.net>.

2-3: 37th Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the **Buffalo Geological Society**, Hamburg Fairgrounds, Hamburg, NY.

30 – May 1: 42nd New England Gem & Mineral Show hosted by the North Shore Rock & Mineral Club. Topsfield Fairgrounds, Coolidge Hall & Trade Building. Topsfield, MA

May:

21: Annual Swap and Sell at Goucher sponsored by the Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Society. Goucher College, Kraushaar Pavilion. Dulaney Valley Rd at I-695; Towson, MD.

July

9-10: Jewelry, Gem & Fossil Show sponsored by the **Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse**, NY State Fairgrounds, Syracuse, NY

from EFMLS News 12/04

Frost Bite and Hypothermia

by Bill Klose, EFMLS Safety Chair

Frost-bite is the cutting off of circulation to and possibly the destruction of superficial tissues, especially to hands, feet, ears, and nose as well as other areas of the body exposed to cold temperatures. The wind (wind chill factor) and moisture can add to the effects of cold temperature, even when above freezing.

Symptoms of frostbite begin as a prickly feeling on exposed areas of the skin followed by numbness and waxy looking patches. In more severe cases, these waxy patches get lumpy, redden, and blister followed by the skin dying and falling off or gangrene setting in. Severe pain is associated with advanced frostbite. At the first signs of frostbite, dry the affected area and cover with cloth or in the case of hands, place into the armpits to prevent further cooling. Do not rub or apply snow to the frostbitten area. The affected area can be placed in water a little above body temperature, but not above 104 degrees F. Do not place

the affected area under hot running water, as there will not be any feeling initially, so it may become burned. As the frostbitten area “thaws”, it is normal to feel pain or a burning sensation. If blisters form, do not break them, but protect them with a loose dressing and seek medical attention immediately.

Hypothermia is the loss of body temperature and can be life threatening. The symptoms are initially uncontrollable shivering with pale and numb skin. The person then becomes confused and forgetful, acts tired, and wants to sit or lie down. In severe cases the person will become unconscious, have shallow breath, erratic heartbeat, and then the pulse weakens and slows. At the first signs of hypothermia, take the victim to a warm, dry place and give them hot liquids (not alcohol). Prevent further heat loss with warm blankets, warm rocks, or a companion in bed with the victim. Get medical attention as soon as possible if the symptoms have gone beyond the shivering stage. The best protection against frostbite and hypothermia is to keep warm, keep moving, and keep dry. Dress in loose layers of warm, waterproof and windproof clothing that covers exposed areas. Warm gloves and a hat are essential. Up to 80% of the body’s warmth can be lost through an uncovered head.

The young and elderly are especially at risk, as are people who have been drinking alcohol, have diabetes, or poor circulation. People taking beta-blockers to lower blood pressure are also at high risk. It is best to have someone with you in cold weather who can watch for signs of frost-bite and hypothermia.

Enjoy a safe 2004-2005 winter season.

from EFMLS News 12/04

Shop Hint

Anyone who works with flat silver in making jewelry discovers that sooner or later, every scratch in the metal has to be removed. Common transparent contact paper from the discount store (the sticky kind with the removable backing) is the answer. Place on each side of the silver sheet for protection. What is more, it accepts and holds permanent ink pen lines and will not pull loose when you are sawing through it.

From The Rockpile 10/03 via Rock Buster News 6/04

Beading News for January 2005

Submitted by Cathy Patterson

Weather permitting; the beading group will meet at 6:30 PM Monday, January 17th. We have not yet decided whether it's feasible to meet earlier than 6:30 PM at the church. The question of whether this is possible or not will continue to be discussed at the Executive Board meeting.

Email Forwarding Addresses at GMSS.US

by Loren Patterson

I discovered recently that along with our Website there are email-forwarding addresses available to any member that would like one. These forwarding addresses are used to call attention to the underlying Website to increase traffic to that site. They also can be used to allow an individual to more easily change their real address without the usual problems of having to notify all of their correspondents. For example: With a forwarding address of johndoe@gmss.us to give out as a main address for all of your contacts, all of your email will then be forwarded to your real address: johndoe@localnet.com. If you have to update everyone on your mail list to a new email address by changing Internet Service Providers (ISP's), you will only have one change to make which can be done much quicker than say, twenty or thirty or more. If you would like to have your own email forwarding address send me an email at: lnpatterson@gmss.us. Be sure to include how you wish your name to be spelled or what initials to use.

Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse - 2004-2005 Dues

Bring to meeting or return To: GMSS, P.O. Box 801, Syracuse, NY 13201

Check appropriate box:

() . Individual/Junior Membership \$6.00

() . Family Membership \$9.00

() . Would you like to receive the newsletter in color via e-mail and save GMSS the postage?

Email Address: _____

A family membership will consist of a husband and wife; a husband, wife and children under 18 years of age; grandparents and grandchildren; or a parent and children. With the exception of grandparents and grandchildren, all must reside in the same household.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone: _____ Work: _____

Family Membership Additional Names: (Year of birth for children under 18)

Please list additional names so they may be included for Eastern Federation Dues and third party liability insurance.

Name/year born _____ Name/year born _____

Name/year born _____ Name/year born _____

P.O. Box 801

Syracuse, New York 13201



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Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse, Inc.

Officers 2004-2005

President	John Sweeney	668-8470
Vice-President	Tim Hart	625-4485
Treasurer	Dave Arcaro	498-5474
Secretary	Cathy Patterson	638-8817
Show Chairman	to be announced	
Sergeant-at-Arms	Dick Ackerman	363-2269

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

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

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. (Except in July, August, & December.)

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

