



1999, 2000, & 2001 EFMLS
Trophy Winning Newsletter

CRACK 'N CAB

Magnetite Crystals in Balmat, NY

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Don't miss this chance to hear our fellow GMSS member, **Steve Chamberlain**, talk about one of the most significant occurrences of magnetite crystals in the world, just a little north of here in Balmat, NY. Be there on Monday, February 16th to learn the history, formation, and associated minerals that are found around this area of upstate NY.

Steve's association with Syracuse University goes back to 1977 starting as an instructor. He has served the university since as the Dean of Engineering & Computer Sciences School and is now a tenured professor (also the founder) of the Bioengineering & Neuroscience School conducting lectures for over 200 university students. Hopefully, this evening will not feature a repeat of extreme weather which forced a postponement last year. In addition to this program, Dr. Chamberlain will also be speaking at the Rochester Symposium this April and at Wildacres in September.



Dr. Steve Chamberlain with trusty slide projector. Photo by L. Patterson

In addition to this program, Dr. Chamberlain will also be speaking at the Rochester Symposium this April and at Wildacres in September.

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 served after the program
- Guests are always welcome

Give Beading a Second Chance

Submitted by Loren Patterson

This time for sure, weather or not, the instructors will be there to get our beading group started. The inclement weather and the "severe weather alert" last month caused some to believe few would show up. Since many (about 22) of our members did venture out in January for the meeting, they are obviously hardier and more dedicated than we were led to believe. You will find more infor-

mation about beading on page 3 and photos of the Intergalactic Bead Show Cathy and I stumbled on by accident (no kidding) on a trip to Memphis, TN recently. There were very few kids present so my grandson, Justin, was asked to do the grand prize drawing for the show. No, they wouldn't let him look at the ticket.

President's Message

Dad. Send Rocks!

My daughter recently moved, with her husband, down to Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas and it didn't take her long to find the local museum. While she was there visiting the museum with some friends, a museum worker over heard her explaining the minerals and fossils in the display cases. The museum worker asked if she had time to meet with the museum owner. After the owner talked with Jaylynn for a while and learned that she is a geology student, she recruited Jaylynn to help with an up coming Girl Scout function, there at the museum.



Photo By
Loren
Patterson

My daughter had just a few days to prepare something using the few rocks she had brought with her from NY and what rocks she could find in the back room of the museum. At the event, the Girl Scouts all flocked to Jaylynn's table for the hands on experience she provided. The owner of the museum was very impressed. We all know that kids and rocks just go together.

I learned about all this after I got a message from her – "Dad, send rocks!... Good New York State rocks!"

Living here in upstate NY, I think we forget what a wide variety of minerals and fossils we have in our backyards. We forget how a one-inch horn coral someplace else is huge and a 12 inch horn coral is not even dreamed of. And sometimes we are surprised by people's reactions to blue calcite. Well, don't forget we will get a chance to share our rocks this summer, when our EFMLS and

AFMS friends come to our show. We need to send them home with some good NY State rocks.

Any way, that week I packed up 3 boxes of rocks and other items Jaylynn forgot and shipped them by UPS to El Paso Texas. That little Museum doesn't know what they are in for. She's helping them with their displays and getting their documentation up to standards for the rocks they have.

My wife and I are going to visit my daughter and son-in-law later this month. I sent them an email with all our flight details. Jaylynn sent back a message - "Dad, bring more rocks." I wonder what a carry on bag of rocks will look like when it goes through Airport Security? This might be a long trip....

Jay Tinker
Club President

Executive Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Rollie Allen

Our big 2004 Gem and Mineral Show was the primary focus of the Executive Committee in a January 12th meeting at the home of John Davis.

Bob Livingston provided a detailed listing of the responsibilities for the show. He also said that Rock and Gem Magazine editor Bob Jones will be unable to be speaker because he has a prior commitment. Efforts are being made to find another speaker.

It was decided to have all the exhibits in the large room off the main floor at the Fairgrounds so that Sue, the T-Rex casting, can be featured at the entrance. Jay Tinker

said arrangements have been made to have Sue in Syracuse for one month, with the club to share it with the MOST. The committee approved the purchase of 10 new display cases for the exhibits.

We will have 50 retail dealers at the show.

Regular Meeting Minutes 1/19

Submitted by Rollie Allen

Cold, snowy weather cut into attendance at the January Gem Club meeting, but those who attended were treated to some nice show-and-tell displays. Pat and Elizabeth Russell had a fossil exhibit while David Arcero featured Onondaga Lake mineral finds. Gene Ridall showed minerals and Jay Tinker displayed beading.

Bob Livingston narrated an interesting slide show of beautiful Datolites from the Upper peninsula of Michigan. The slides, entitled Datolite Nodules: Copper Country, were provided by Wayne W. Sukow.

The inclement weather delayed the beginning of the beading classes to be offered at 6:30 p.m. before club meetings.

Connie Decker, leader of Girl Scouts in Marcellus, attended as a guest with her daughter. They wanted to learn what help they can get with the rock merit badges scouts can earn.

Gene Ridall put in a plug for help in our July show. We need all the help we can get, including that from other clubs.

Gene was asked about arranging for another bus trip to the Springfield Gem Show. He will check on availability of a smaller
(Continued on page 3)



Photo by
Loren
Patterson

Beading Group News*Submitted by Cathy Patterson*

Bad weather and questionable driving conditions kept Carrie and Cathy home and our new beading group from starting off on the right foot in January but the February meeting should go on as planned weather cooperating. Here's what we will cover on Monday the 16th at 6:30PM.

Introduction to Beading

Carrie Gannett

Brief Bead History

Bead Materials

- natural stones
- glass including African trade
- natural materials – wood, bone, etc.

Bead sizes, shapes, etc

Findings

Tools to use

Techniques

Design Ideas – colors, lengths, etc.

Ordering Supplies

We hope you'll join us **Monday February 16** (Presidents Day) for our first meeting of the Beading Group. Bring your beads and tools if you have them.

Minutes*(Continued from page 2)*

bus since last year's planned trip was cancelled because not enough people signed up.

Donna Contrastan asked if we could exhibit a gem of the month at our meetings and this will be considered.

Winners in the monthly drawing were Donna Contrastan, Bill Royer, Virginia Adcook, Leda Gildos and Loren Patterson.

Amethyst is the February birthstone. Wear yours to the February meeting.

Let' Go Bead Surfin'*Submitted by Cathy Patterson*

An interesting site I recently discovered as result of attending the Intergalactic Bead Show in Memphis last week (Feb. 1st) was www.afghantribalarts.com. The vendor had an interesting selection of tribal beads from Afghanistan on display that really caught my eye. I'll be stringing those mossy, green jade beads soon perhaps at our beading group.

See the shows Website for more info: <www.beadshows.com>



The Intergalactic Bead Show in Memphis, TN – Photo by L. Patterson

Bead Board*A Guide to Quality Bead Selection**By Jonathan Partridge*

Are you planning to purchase beads?

If you keep the following suggestions in mind, then your purchase will be an educated one. Here are the things to look for when making a purchase:

Drilling – Do the holes go through the center of the beads? Are the holes even and smooth all the way through? Centered holes let the beads line up correctly in a strand and do not scratch or cut the beading thread.

Shape – Are the beads well shaped? Have all the flat spots been removed? Are they symmetrical?

Polish – Do the beads have a high polish with no pits or rough spots?

Natural color - Are the colors natural or have they been enhanced by dye? Avoid beads that could bleed colors as they may stain clothing if they become warm or moist. Rose quartz is one type of bead that is often "enhanced" by dyes.

Natural materials - Are the beads made of natural gems or synthetics? This is often difficult to tell and there is no visible or chemical difference between the two, but natural materials command a higher price than synthetics.

Grade of material – Since there is a wide range of color and clarity in gems, compare beads of the same category before you buy. One grade of sodalite, for example, may be a light blue while another; from a different locality will be a brilliant lively blue.

There is often a direct correlation between poor quality beads and price. As a consumer, know what to look for so you can make that informed purchase. Compare from vendor to vendor and measure the length of the strands (especially if beads are sold in ropes without knots between them) before you buy so you also know the length – these often vary by as much as an inch or more!

The Gem Cutter Journal May 1999 via MWF Newsletter 3/03



Photo by Loren Patterson

Rochester Mineral Symposium Around the Corner

Submitted by Cathy Patterson

Tax Day, April 15, is the start date of this year's 31st Rochester Mineralogical Symposium. This is a 4 day event for mineral collectors and those who aspire to become one. There are speakers each day, shopping, auctions, and dinner. Below is the schedule should you wish to attend.

Thursday April 15 – dinner, George Robinson – speaker **Minerals of Michigan**

Friday April 16 speaker- **New Minerals Described from Greenland, Epitaxy II** R. Peter Richards, lunch and shopping, Technical Session, Part II, dinner, **Mineral Inclusions in Diamonds** – John Koivula

Saturday April 17 breakfast, **What's New In Minerals-** Jeff Scoville and audience, **Zeolites of Iceland-** Ole Petersen, **Adventures in Asia-** Dudley Blauwet, lunch and shopping, **Minerals of Ontario** David Joyce, silent auction, dinner, voice auction

Sunday April 18 *The New Encyclopedia of Minerals* Joe Mandarino, *Disposing of Your Collection: Where, When, and How*, end of symposium 11:30

Per day registration fee \$30, juniors 18 and under FREE, college students showing college ID \$5.

More information is available from Steve Chamberlain and Al Mura Steve_Chamberlain@isr.syr.edu Or Helen Chamberlain Registrar (315) 682-6023
Location of Symposium
Park Plaza Rochester Airport
formerly the Radisson

175 Jefferson Road
Rochester, NY 14623
(585) 475-1910

Registration deadline is March 15.

Some registration forms will be available at the February meeting.

Find it On the Web

Both the EFMLS and AFMS websites contains a wealth of information which can be useful for your club.

The EFMLS Website is www.amfed.org/efmls. You can find information on Wildacres; the upcoming convention in Syracuse, see pictures from past EFMLS activities, download various application forms, find contact information for member clubs, EFMLS officers and committee chairs, back issues of the EFMLS Newsletters plus lots more. There are also links to a variety of other useful places to visit.

The AFMS Website is www.amfed.org. This site contains informat8ion about the AFMS, links to the seven regional federations, and back issues of the AFNMS Newsletter.

Bookmark these sites and visit them often to find out what's new.

From EFMLS Newsletter, 2/04

Refreshments

Submitted by Bob Livingston

Those gooey and good January meeting refreshments were courtesy of money donated by **Doris Henderson**. For February, our leader, **Jay Tinker**, is providing our refreshments. Thanks to both of these members for their extra efforts.

We need persons to volunteer to bring goodies for March, April, and May. Don't be bashful -- Choose a month and sign up on the sheet Joan Livingston has at the sign in table.

Don't worry, we won't need anything as fancy as our 50th anniversary cake.

Photo by Loren Patterson

Shop Hints

Hidden Dangers In Our Hobby

Acetone: an industrial type solvent containing harmful vapors

Hydrogen sulfide: by-product of sulfur and water. Deadly poison!

Manganese: in dust or vapors, it can damage the nervous system.

Quartz, agate, sandstone, granite, chert, and flint: all are of the silica rock family. The dust from this family contributes to silicosis of the lungs.

Styrofoam: when heated or burned, releases toxic gases.

Abalone: grind and polish only when wet. Be aware that any odor detected is highly toxic.

Malachite: work wet as the dust created when working dry is toxic.

Lead: known to enter the body from dust, fumes, and water. It can damage the brain and neuromuscular system.

While it is not healthy to fear everything, one should be aware of hidden dangers in apparently innocent looking materials that we all use extensively in our hobby. If you are using a material that is new to you, read the labels and heed any warning. We want all lapidaries to remain a healthy lot and continue to live, long and active lives! _____

*From Calgary Lapidary Journal Nov 1991
via Rock Buster News Jan 2004*



**2004 EFMLS/AFMS
Convention & Show Here in
less than 5 Months!**

by Bob Livingston



This will be our second installment of getting the word out to you. It will make us Syracuse members have a better feel for the enormity of our task. Pulling together, we can make it happen, trust me.

Last month we told Federation folk when and where the show is and when and where the meetings are. We tried to give enough info for the early birds to lock up a hotel reservation at the Headquarters Ramada Inn. (Remember for complete package details, anyone can go to <www.amfed.org/efmls> click on 2004 Convention and get full particulars, plus all the forms may be easily downloaded.)

This time we told them what is going to be shaking at the show, and that they should not miss coming to the fabulous Finger Lakes area of upstate New York. The following is verbatim:

"This show is several acres all in air conditioned comfort in the largest building at the New York State fairgrounds. With all this going for you, it can easily be your one-stop shopping site for this summer: 3/4 mile of tables in a wholesale section of 12 wholesalers (valid tax number will be required for entry) and 52 handpicked retailers from the US and Canada.

You will get to meet dino (T-Rex) SUE in all her glory from out West plus see great educational exhibits (with everyone's cooperation we are planning for at least a hundred-strong showing) -- here's a sampling of some we already know: the Smithsonian, Carnegie

Museum, New York State Museum, PRI of Ithaca, AE Seaman Museum, Penn State and Syracuse U. World class minerals by pros like Bill Pinch, a phenomenal case of minerals brought up by Dr. Steven Chamberlain from his descent 2 1/2 miles under the Atlantic in the sub Alvin, fantastic carvings, wow opals, New York State garnets, Art Grant's museum cut stones, coprolites, calcites, quartzes in many forms including Herkimer Diamonds like no other, and huge specimens from a Canadian quarry.

Then there are

humongous several-thousand carat-faceted stones from the Northwest Faceters guys, the 5800 carat "Dare Devil" won just 2 years back, Aquamarine to die for, large and complete fossilized shark by George Powell, plus all the jewelry / metalwork exhibits, cabs, faceted stones, minerals, fossils, spheres, carvings, mining memorabilia and whatever that will be brought in to share by all of you. Many will be placed in competition with awards hoped for.

Add fossil prep demos, glass bead-making, beading, faceting, cabbing, daily "Glowing Fluorescent" shows with UV Bob, tools, machinery, supplies, on-site jeweler, wire wrapping, and we have the nucleus of enough to keep you busy for a while. Lest we forget your kids, we have mineral sluicing for them, the straw draw

game, geode splitting, operating gondola car trains (for kids of all ages) and most likely soapstone carving. Top it off with lectures, some hand-made quilts for the ladies, hobby art, gem trees, hourly door prizes, great show prizes, an EFMLS auction of "Good Stuff" on Saturday, food, Free parking, a building that is wheelchair accessible, camping on the fairgrounds (reserve early), and several collecting trips and this whole

Syracuse adventure takes on a life of its own.

You just can't lose unless you fail to come and be part of The 2004 great

gathering of super people

--
Rockhounds .

Plan to take some extra time and enjoy the sights and pleasures of the Finger Lakes Vacationland for extra bonuses:

- Syracuse China factory and outlet is 10 minutes from the hotel.
- Erie canal museum in Syracuse has a full size packet boat.
- Boxing Hall of Fame (Canastota) is 25 minutes east from your hotel.
- St. Lawrence Seaway and 1000 Islands are 2 hours North.
- Tour and "taste" in the beautiful Finger Lakes wine country (25 wineries).
- Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown & Corvette Museum are 2 1/2 hours East.
- Learn all about garnet production and collect, 3 hours north at North Creek, NY. (Continued on page 7)



Sky Alverson from the St. Lawrence Club by his case of minerals now part of the New York State Museum collection. Photos by Loren Patterson

EFMLS News

WILDACRES

*from Esther Dunn,
Functioning Committee
Chair*



**June 26 -July 2
September 20 -26**

The excitement is building as we move closer and closer to our two EFMLS Wildacres Workshop sessions. Have you sent in your reservation yet?

Wildacres is a wonderful place. Those of us who have been fortunate to experience at least one session held at this beautiful venue are eager to return year after year. There is always something new to be learned, new people to meet, and an opportunity to "get away from it all " as participants enjoy the private mountaintop facility that is Wildacres.

Session #1, June 26 -July 2 will feature Bob Jones, Sr. Editor of Rock & Gem Magazine as guest speaker. He's a wonderful speaker who always has interesting tales of his mineral adventures around the world and across the U.S.

Session #2, September 20 -26, will feature **Dr. Steven Chamberlain** of Syracuse University. Steve too is a dynamic speaker whose knowledge of our hobby is amazing. He's been at the bottom of the Pacific in the Alvin, crawled into some amazing mineral pockets in Canada...but that 's just the tip of the iceberg.

The week at Wildacres consists of talks by the featured speaker, classes (see list), an opportunity to explore the local area (Asheville and the famous Biltmore Estate are an hour away; there are a number of "digging " localities nearby; there are many rock shops close by; etc.), a tailgate session,

auction, and fun night plus lots of unscheduled activities.

Have we enticed you to come? Here are the classes that are scheduled for each session.

June 26 -July 2

- 2-day Classes:
Cabochons
Chain making Basic
Chain making Intermediate
Prerequisite: Basic
Fluorescents
Mineral ID
Wirecraft Basic
Soapstone Carving or Beading

4-day Classes:(you only take 1)

- Faceting
Certified Judging
Micromounting &
Photomicrography
Silversmithing

September 20-26

- 2-day Classes
Cabochons
Wirecraft Basic
Soapstone Carving or Forging

4-day Classes:

- Faceting
Certified Judging
Micromounting &
Photomicrography
Silversmithing
Wax Modeling and Casting

AFMLS News

Code of Ethics

I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.



I will keep informed on all laws, regulations of rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them. I will to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect. I will use no firearms or

blasting material in collecting areas.

I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind - fences, signs, and buildings.

I will leave all gates as found.

I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.

I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.

I will fill all excavation holes that may be dangerous to livestock.

I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.

I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.

I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.

I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.

I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.

I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.

I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.

I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public "image" of rockhounds everywhere.

EFMLS News

VISIT A SHOW

From William Lema

February**21-22: 11th Annual**

James Campbell, Memorial Gem & Fossil Show & Sale, co-sponsored by the New York State Academy of Mineralogy and the **Capital District Mineral Club**. Concourse level, south end of the Empire State Plaza,, Madison Avenue, Albany, NY.

March:

6 - 7: New York City Gem & Mineral Show Hosted by the New York Mineralogical Club. Holiday Inn, Midtown Manhattan, 440 W. 57th St., New York City.

6 - 7: 41st Annual Earth Science Gem and Mineral Show sponsored by the Delaware Mineralogical Society. New Location: Delaware Technical and Community College®, I-95 Exit 4B, Churchmans Road, (Rt. 58), Newark (Stanton), DE.

20-21: 40th Annual Gem-Mineral-Fossil Show sponsored by the Gem, Lapidary, & Mineral Society of Montgomery County, MD, Montgomery County Fairgrounds, 16 Chestnut Street. Gaithersburg, MD.

20-21: Philadelphia Mineral Treasures and Fossil Fair co-sponsored by the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society and the Delaware Valley Paleontological Society. The Lulu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA. Info: 610-971-0620 or <cal@pafa.org>

27-28: 14th Annual Jewelry, Mineral & Fossil Show, sponsored by the Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club. Harmony Hall

Regional Center, Fort Washington, MD.

Info:

<Michael.patterson@pgparks.com>

April:

2 - 4: 32nd Annual Atlantic Micromounters Conference. Tyson's Westpark Hotel, McLean, VA. Info and registration: Steve Weinberger, PO Box 302; Glyndon, MD 21071-0302.

3 - 4: 36th Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show, sponsored by the **Buffalo Geological Society, Inc.** Erie County Fair-grounds, Hamburg, NY.

May:

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.

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).

September:

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.

November:

6 - 7: Golden Anniversary Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry & Gem Show sponsored by the Stamford Mineralogical Society. New location: Eastern Greenwich Civic Center, 90 Harding Av; Old Greenwich, CT.

from EFMLS News 02/04

2004 EFMLS/AFMS**Convention**

by Bob Livingston

(Continued from page 5)

- Historic aviation and glider trips 2 hours South and West.

- Museum of Glass, Corning (see world renown Steubenware crystal made) 2½ hours South.

- Sail on one of the eleven Finger Lakes or enjoy an evening dinner cruise.

- Take in the Museum of Automotive History in downtown Syracuse.

- Don't miss Niagara Falls, 2 ½ hours West.

- IMAX Theater and Rosamond Gifford Zoo in Syracuse.

- Eastman (Kodak) Museum is in Rochester, 1 ½ hours West.

- Huge 3-story Carousel Mall for shopping 1 ½ miles south of Ramada Inn.

- Salt Museum (Syracuse got its start pumping and evaporating salt) 2 miles from the hotel

- Stickley, collector-grade furniture factory and showroom 20 minutes East

Lots to enjoy, lots to see, photo opportunities galore to snap and share back home. Remember, "Memories" are made from all of this. The welcome mat will be out for YOU.

Next month, we will tie-up some loose ends and take it up "another notch" with Field Trip plans and our need for demonstrators."

P.O. Box 801
Syracuse, New York 13201



First Class Mail

February 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
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Sergeant-at-Arms	David Zolkiv	xxxxxxxx

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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

