

Nittany Mineralogical Society Bulletin

Nittany Mineralogical Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 10664

State College PA 16805

Editor (see page 8):

David C. Glick

August, 2015

Visit our web site: www.nittanymineral.org

August 19th meeting:

Annual Show and Tell

by
the members and guests

Our August meeting will be held Wednesday the 19th in room 116 (smaller auditorium) of Earth & Engineering Sciences Building on the west side of the Penn State campus in State College, PA. Maps are available on our web site.

6:30 to 7:30 p.m.: Social hour, refreshments in the lobby

7:30 to 8:00 p.m.: announcements, questions, answers

about 8:00 p.m.: featured program

The event has free admission, free parking, and free refreshments, and is open to all; **parents/guardians must provide supervision of minors.** Bring your friends and share an interesting evening!

The program topic for August will be **Show and Tell**, presented by anyone and everyone who would like to “show and tell” for 5 or 10 minutes or so. This is a great chance to bring in new specimens, lapidary work, books, photos, equipment, projects in progress, interesting contrasts and comparisons, **anything you like** which represents some area of interest in our hobby or science, and share it with others. You can speak about it as informally or formally as you’d like. Stories on their own are fine, too. You can connect with other members who have similar interests, or awaken an interest or spark an idea in someone else. We’ve had many fun and interesting presentations in the past, and look forward to more this time around.

One demonstration will be of the long-wave ultraviolet flashlights with upgraded filters which NMS assembled to sell at Junior Ed. Day. We still have a few for sale.

-Editor

ATTENDING THE AUGUST MEETING?

Donations of

a few good, labeled door prize specimens

are invited.

Your donated snacks and drinks will be welcomed.

Bring a friend!

Watch this Bulletin and our
web site for announcements
of upcoming meetings.

NMS Picnic on September 20

Pennsylvania Furnace, PA

4 to 7 p.m. at The Bingham's



On **Sunday, SEPTEMBER 20**, our club will once again have its annual picnic at the home and shady deck and back yard of Ellen and Stuart Bingham, 145 Goddard Circle, Pennsylvania Furnace, PA, 16865. NMS will provide hot dogs, burgers, condiments and canned drinks. You bring

yourself and a friend and a side dish or dessert to share. RSVP to nittanymineral.org@gmail.com or (814) 234-4532

“From Fabric to 3D Fabrication” Maker Week in State College August 24-29 to include Lapidary

Schlow Library and
local organizations are

teaming up to present Maker Week in State College, August 24-29, with a variety of demonstrations and presentations. Other than two “camps,” all events are free and open to the public. Details can be found on Facebook or the Schlow web site, <https://www.schlowlibrary.org/news/2015-08-08/maker-week-2015>

Lapidary enthusiast and NMS Vice President Bob Altamura will demonstrate the making of cabochon (curved top) gemstones and tumble-polished stones on Friday, August 28th, from noon to around 4:30 p.m. The lapidary demonstration site will be in the covered walkway beside the main entrance to Schlow Library (Beaver Av. & Allen St.), facing Allen Street. -Editor



Cabochon example of Botswana agate fashioned into a pendant necklace. Height of pendant is approx. 1.5"

R. Altamura photo



Restored, Historic Plaster Geologic Relief Map Installed at Penn State's Earth & Mineral Sciences Museum

from press release at
<http://news.psu.edu/story/365057/2015/08/06/arts-and-entertainment/restored-historic-plaster-relief-map-display>
 linked from <http://www.ems.psu.edu/>

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. -- On Tuesday, Aug. 11, a recently restored, historically significant map was installed in the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences' (EMS) Museum and Art Gallery.

EMS held a press conference showing the installation of the map in the gallery. Representatives from the museum and Materials Conservation, the restoration company, discussed the rehabilitation, installation and plans for the map. The museum is located on the ground floor of the Deike Building and the press conference is open to the public.

The map is a large (7.5 feet x 17 feet), three-dimensional, plaster relief map that shows the geology of Pennsylvania. Created by Edward B. Harden of Philadelphia, the map dates more than 100 years. It was first displayed at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago — the same fair where a Ferris wheel was first unveiled to the public.

Since 1897, the map has been on display on Penn State's University Park campus. It was first displayed in the original Old Main building as a visitor attraction. In 1910, it was relocated to the Geological Museum, which had been located in the old Mining Building (1906-1930). It was later moved to the Mineral Industries Building (completed in 1929), which housed the School of Mineral Industries — the precursor to EMS. The Mineral Industries Building was renamed the Steidle Building in honor of Edward Steidle, dean of the college from 1929 to 1953.

Renovations of the Steidle Building started in fall 2014 and the map was removed by the museum and Penn State's Office of the Physical Plant (OPP) for restoration. After removing the map, it was sent in pieces to Materials Conservation Co. LLC in Philadelphia to be painstakingly refurbished. Conservators used thousands of Q-tips to clean the map and areas were touched up with new plaster and paint. The process took several months and the map is now restored to its original condition.

"This map is an extremely significant artifact of the history of science at Penn State and will now be the core of a new exhibit on contemporary research in college," said Russ Graham, director of the EMS Museum and Art Gallery. "It is like creating a new exhibit on aviation with the Wright brother's first plane as the focal point."

The map can be viewed in the EMS Museum and Art Gallery in 16 Deike Building from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.



photos by D. Glick



NEWS FROM THE FEDERATIONS

Nittany Mineralogical Society, Inc., is a member of EFMLS, the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, and therefore an affiliate of AFMS, the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. We present brief summaries here in order to encourage readers to see the entire newsletters.

The **EFMLS Newsletter** is available through the link on our web site www.nittanymineral.org, or remind Dave Glick to bring a printed copy to a meeting for you to see. The June (most recent) issue provides an update on Wildacres workshops, with the August 24-30 session coming up soon. President Merrill Dickinson starts a new "Club's Corner" article for clubs to report and exchange information on their shows. The first report is from the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society / Delaware Valley Paleontological Society show. A free class to train judges of competitive display cases will be held in Missouri in August. The safety article covers dangers we don't see - dust, fumes, hazards in the dark, etc. The history article is a reprint from 1970 on J.D. Dana and his various reference books. Minutes of the 65th Annual Meeting (March, 2015) are presented.

The **AFMS Newsletter** is available by the same methods. The June-July issue's Juniors column covers "Indoor Field Trip" activities; kid-friendly museums may be nearby. The Conservation & Legislation column covers the final ruling on "casual collecting" on US Forest Service land, effective May 18, 2015.

Please see the web sites for the complete Newsletters. There's a lot there!
- Editor

Penn State loans EMS Museum Paintings for Special Exhibit in Doylestown

The Museum is loaning 55 paintings to the Michener Art Museum in Doylestown, Pa., north of Philadelphia. Their new curator's specialty is Industrial Art; she found out about the Steidle Collection through the book that the EMS Museum had published in 2009. The show, *Iron and Coal, Petroleum and Steel: Industrial Art from the Steidle Collection*, runs from July 11 to October 25; see their web site, <http://www.michenermuseum.org/>

The Museum is seeking ways to show more paintings to the public; some were shown at the Palmer Museum of Art as part of their Marcellus Shale documentary project. They will continue to have small exhibits in the Earth & Mineral Sciences Library in Deike Building; one coming up will be on quarries.
- Editor

Geo-Sudoku

by David Glick

This puzzle contains the letters BEILMRSTU. One row or column includes the name of the machines used to polish irregularly shaped gemstones. Each block of 9 squares, each row, and each column must contain each of the nine letters exactly once. The solution is on page 8.

					R	E		
		I		E				M
M		B	L	T				U
	U		B		E	R		
	R	S		U				B
		E	R	S				T
			S			T		R
B			E	M	I	S		
		U	T				M	E

Classifieds

Ads may be submitted to the Editor (see p. 8)

FOR SALE: This sturdy, three-legged cast aluminum lapidary unit is made by Gemlap Equipment, model 5-A. Its tub is 4 inches deep, and will hold any grinding wheel or platen up to 2-inches thick and 10 inches in diameter. Its center ball bearing mounted spindle is 0.5 inches in diameter, with a 0.5-20 UNF fine thread (20 threads per inch.). It is driven from below by any conventional pulley system. Old but in excellent condition. \$25; proceeds go to NMS. Contact Jim Garthe, jwg10@psu.edu, (814) 667-2409.

FOR SALE: 2 Homemade Lapidary saws for sale - 14" and 18". Both come with working motors, arbor, belt, pulley, rock clamp/carriage, and a blade.

Both are mucked-out and ready to move. Both could use a little TLC. For more info contact Mike Zelazny at fabricatefilm@yahoo.com

FOR SALE:
Microscope & Accessories, Mineral Specimens, Crystal Models.

Avid collector wants these to be purchased by someone who would appreciate them. Contact Frank & Gail Beall, 724-789-7290. See much more complete listing at www.nittanymineral.org/beall.pdf and in earlier NMS Bulletin issues.

Some Upcoming Shows and Meetings

Our web site <http://www.nittanymineral.org> has links to more complete lists and details on mineral shows and meetings around the country.

See www.mineralevents.com for more.

Sept. 19-20, 2105: 50th Annual Gem, Mineral & jewelry Show by Central PA Rock & Mineral Club. Zembo Shrine, 3rd & Division Sts, Harrisburg PA Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5.

Sept. 26-27, 2015: Franklin-Sterling Hill Mineral, Gem & Jewelry Show, by FOMS & Franklin Mineral Museum. Franklin Borough School, 50 Washington Ave., Franklin NJ. Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4.
<http://spmom3.wix.com/franklin-gem-mineral>

Oct. 1-3, 2015: Mineral & Fossil Yard Sale by Tom Smith, 10 Roger Av., Shippensburg PA. Thurs. 6 p.m. -8 p.m., Fri 8-1 and 6-8, Sat 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., or by appt. 100+ flats of specimens. 2.1 mi from center of town on earl St Extended (Rt 696 heading N/W) past Shippensburg Univ. Ph. 717-552-6554, tsmith1012@comcast.net

October 3, 2015: Autumn Mineralfest, by Penna. Earth Sciences Ass'n. Macungie Memorial Park, Poplar St., Macungie PA. Sat. only, 8:30-3:00.
www.mineralfest.com

Oct. 31, 2015: (Note this correct date) South Penn Fall Rock Swap, by CPRMC & Franklin Cty RMC. South Mountain Fairground, 1.5 mi W of Arendtsville PA on Rt 234. Sat. only, 8:30-3:00. For GPS, use address 615 Narrows Road, Biglerville, PA 17307. General admissions \$1.00/person. Table for Swappers \$5.00/table. Contact: tsmith1012@comcast.net

Geo-Sudoku Solution

U	L	T	M	I	R	E	B	S
R	S	I	U	E	B	L	T	M
M	E	B	L	T	S	I	R	U
T	U	M	B	L	E	R	S	I
L	R	S	I	U	T	M	E	B
I	B	E	R	S	M	U	L	T
E	M	L	S	B	U	T	I	R
B	T	R	E	M	I	S	U	L
S	I	U	T	R	L	B	M	E

INVITE A FRIEND TO JOIN THE SOCIETY

The Nittany Mineralogical Society prides itself on having among the finest line-up of speakers of any earth sciences club in the nation. Everyone is welcome at our meetings. If you'd like to be part of our Society, dues are \$20 (regular member), \$7 (student rate), \$15 (seniors), \$30 (family of two or more members, names listed). Those joining in March or later may request pro-rated dues. Your dues are used for programs and speakers, refreshments, educational activities, Bulletins, and mailing expenses. Please fill out a membership form (available at www.nittanymineral.org), make checks payable to "Nittany Mineralogical Society, Inc." and send them in as directed, or bring your dues to the next meeting.

We want to welcome you!

SOCIETY OFFICERS

David Glick (President) 814-237-1094 (h)
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Dr. Bob Altamura (Vice-President) 814-234-5011 (h)
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OTHER CONTACTS

Field Trips: Ed Echler 814-222-2642
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Junior Rockhounds: Dr. Andrew Sicree
814-867-6263 (h) e-mail: sicree@verizon.net

Membership Chair: David Glick (see above)

Programs: Dr. Duff Gold 865-7261(o), 238-3377(h)
e-mail: gold@ems.psu.edu

Door Prizes: *volunteer needed!*

Refreshments: *volunteer needed!*

Facebook & Publicity: John Dziak: jjd264@psu.edu

The Bulletin Editor will welcome your submissions of articles, photos, drawings, cartoons, etc., on minerals, fossils, collecting, lapidary, and club activity topics of interest to the members. Please contact:

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209 Spring Lea Dr. phone: (814) 237-1094 (h)
State College, PA 16801-7226

Newsletter submissions are appreciated by the first Wednesday of the month. If you include photographs or graphics, please do not embed them in word processor files; send them as separate graphics files (TIF, or good to highest quality JPEG files, about 1050 pixels wide, are preferred). Please provide captions and name of photographer or artist.

Visit us at www.nittanymineral.org