

Nittany Mineralogical Society Bulletin

Nittany Mineralogical Society, Inc., meeting in State College, Pennsylvania
Contact information on back page

Editor (see back page):

David C. Glick

December, 2017

Visit our web site: www.nittanymineral.org

December 13th:

Annual Holiday Dinner at Quaker Steak & Lube Restaurant

NOTE: SECOND Wednesday

Please join us!

On Wednesday, Dec. 13, 6:00 p.m., rather than our usual meeting and program, we'll have our **Holiday Dinner** at Quaker Steak & Lube Restaurant, 501 Benner Pike (across Benner Pike from the Nittany Mall), State College PA 16801 in their "Corvette Room." There is actually a real Corvette suspended from the ceiling above part of the Corvette room. The entire restaurant is decorated in automotive memorabilia making the place and our event a lot of fun!



NMS will pay for appetizer plates to be shared by all those present, then attendees can order and pay for their own dinners. We'll have some door prizes also. If you expect to attend, please **RSVP** to Bob Altamura, raltamura@comcast.net or 814-234-5011 to help us plan for table space. If you haven't signed up and you want to come anyway, that's fine too - **please join us!**

We will continue our past tradition where members can have a table at the dinner to sell minerals / fossils/ gems / jewelry / rock crafts. Sellers need to collect PA sales tax. NMS will charge a commission fee at 10% of the vendor's pre-tax sales. If you are interested in selling, please contact Bob Altamura (see above) as soon as possible to secure table openings.

New NMS T-shirts Available at Holiday Dinner

The Society has arranged for new a printing-run of NMS T-shirts in sizes that have a wide range from Youth- through Adult-sizes including XXL. Color availability includes: Royal Blue, Galapagos Blue, and Texas Orange. Graphic design includes our name and graphically designed map of PA on the front of the shirt and drawing of a crystal cluster, a trilobite, a cabochon, and a faced stone in the pattern of a brilliant all in white ink. Be among the first and select your favorite color and sizes.

Perhaps an NMS T-shirt might make fun Christmas stocking stuffer for someone you know that likes NMS, minerals and the earth sciences. In following the mission of NMS to foster education of the minerals and the earth sciences, we currently will be selling these shirts at near our cost - \$9.00 per shirt.



Bob Altamura will have T-shirts available for purchase (cash or check only) at the November monthly meeting and also at the NMS sales table at the NMS Holiday Dinner which is set for December 13 at 6:00 p.m. at Quaker Steak & Lube (see Holiday Dinner announcement at left). T-shirts also may be purchased by special arrangement; contact Bob (raltamura@wesleyan.edu or 814-234-5011).

NMS SEEKS SPACE

by David Glick, NMS President

The NMS Board is considering acquiring some space in a building, or a whole building, that we might use for some of our activities. Some possible uses would be for Junior Rockhounds meetings; a lapidary workshop; club use of books, microscopes and micromount collection; and storage of materials for Minerals Junior Education Day, etc. Please let Dave Glick know if you have any ideas for space that we might lease or purchase.

Geo-Sudoku

by David Glick

This puzzle contains the letters ACDEILRSW. One row or column spells the EFMLS educational retreat in North Carolina. As usual, if you've read this issue, you've seen the word, or a variation of it. Each block of 9 squares, each row, and each column must contain each of the nine letters exactly once. The solution is on page 4.

I	D	A		L	E			
	L					E	C	I
				R		A	D	
S			E			W		D
D		C			L			
					I	S	L	C
	S	W						R
L	R	D	A		S			E
			L	E	R		W	

Minerals Junior Education Day Saturday, April 7, 2018

Frank Kowalczyk will be coordinating NMS's 23rd Annual Minerals Junior Education Day. It is set for Saturday, April 7, at Central Pennsylvania Institute of Science & Technology at Pleasant Gap, the same location as the last few years. Please save the date and think about how you might help present this great event.

At this event, kids get an empty egg carton when they check in, then go to a series of stations, each concerning a different aspect of mineral properties, rocks, fossils, etc. They learn about the topic from a demonstration or discussion, and receive a properly labeled specimen or educational item related to the topic, so they gather a whole collection in their egg carton. There is also a sales table with kid-friendly prices.

We are starting early to prepare for the 2018 event, seeking **volunteers** to help to present the stations, and ideas for stations which we (or you) might present. We also welcome advance donations of identified minerals, tumble-polished material, fossils, books, etc. which can be sold at child-friendly prices. To volunteer or get more details, **please contact Frank J. Kowalczyk:**

frank.j.kowalczyk@gmail.com
or 814-238-8874



Weather Cancellation Policy

In case we experience active winter weather on a meeting date, our policy is to cancel the meeting only if evening classes at Penn State have been cancelled. That cancellation is publicized in the usual radio and TV service announcements.



Penn State notes that weather-related cancellation / closing information can be found at WPSU-FM, the news site <<http://news.psu.edu/>>, and <<http://www.facebook.com/pennstate>>



- Editor

FEDERATION NEWS

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 now being distributed electronically; a link is available on our web site **www.nittanymineral.org**. The December issue includes the new class list and information on the Spring 2018 EFMLS Wildacres Workshop, to be held May 21-27. The Speaker-In-Residence will be Gem carver and jewelry artist Helen Seras-Herman (see <gemartcenter.com>). The Fall session has been announced for September 3 - 9. President Barbara Ringhiser starts a list to answer "What does the Eastern Federation Do For You?" Tickets for the AFMS Endowment Fund Drawing are for sale. The drawing will be held at the EFMLS/AFMS Convention & Show, in Raleigh NC April 4-8, 2018.

The **AFMS Newsletter** is available by the same methods. In the December-January issue, photographs of the early donations of prizes for the Endowment Fund are shown. President Sandy Fuller discusses the various awards programs which recognize the best from across the nation.

The Federations encourage everyone to see the web sites for the complete Newsletters. There's a lot there! -Editor

20 Years Ago in NMS

In December 1997 we had just had a record turnout for the November meeting presentation, Color and Fading in Minerals and Gems by Dr. Kurt Nassau, and had just had the first meeting of the Junior Rockhounds club. We were looking forward to the December presentation, An Update of the Saltillo Mastodon, by NMS members Shirley Fonda, Dana Atkinson, Duff Gold, and Andrew Sicree, who had been excavating the mastodon bones in Huntingdon County. That group was also giving their presentation in the town of Saltillo.

**DECEMBER MEETING
DOOR PRIZES!**

Specimens from John Passaneau collection
D. Glick photos



Fluorapatite, Otter Lake, Quebec



Petrified wood (?) / jasper



Calcite, Mexico



**Rutgers Geology Museum
50th Annual Open House**



SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2018

PRESENTATIONS IN SCOTT HALL ROOM 123

10:00 am to 11:00 am	<p>"New Jersey Fisheries in a Global Context" <i>Presented by Dr. Olaf Jensen</i> Department of Marine and Coastal Sciences, Rutgers University</p>
11:30 am to 12:30 pm	<p>"Empire of the Apes: the recent discovery of an ape and human ancestor in Africa" <i>Presented by Dr. Isaiah Nengo</i> Turkana Basin Institute and Department of Anthropology, Stony Brook University</p>
2:00 pm to 3:00 pm	<p>"The Appalachians and how they got that way: Structure and dynamics of eastern North America" <i>Presented by Dr. Maureen Long</i> Department of Geology and Geophysics, Yale University</p>

Mineral Sale - Scott Hall Room 135 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Credit cards, cash and checks now accepted; Sales tax applied to all purchases unless tax-exempt status is provided

- *Rock and mineral identification* – Scott Hall Room 205 from 11:00am to 2:00 pm
- *Make-and-take stations for kids* (all ages) - Geology Museum from 11:00 am to 2:30 pm

Hands-on activity sessions for kids (ages 8+) in Scott Hall

10:30 am - 11:30 am	Room 204	Tracking Skulls
	Room 203	Mapping Our World
	Room 202	Tag-A-Fish
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm	Room 204	Tracking Skulls
	Room 203	Mapping Our World
	Room 202	Tag-A-Fish
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Room 204	Tracking Skulls
	Room 203	Mapping Our World
	Room 202	Tag-A-Fish



CART Captioning Services will be available for all RUGM lectures. Contact the museum at 848-932-7243 or at geologymuseum@sas.rutgers.edu for more information about this event.

Check out our website at <http://geologymuseum.rutgers.edu>

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.

Jan. 20, 2018: Philadelphia Interclub Swap & Sell, by Phila. Mineralogical Society. **THIS IS THE NEW LOCATION** Lu Lu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462. Sat. only, 9-noon. <http://www.phillyrocks.org/>

Jan. 27, 2018: Rutgers Geology Museum Open House. See page 3.

March 3-4, 2018: Delaware Mineralogical Society Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show, Theme: "Favorite Finds." Symposium.

March 24-25, 2018: Philadelphia Mineral Treasures and Fossil Fair, by Phila. Min. Soc. & Delaware Valley Paleo. Soc. LuLu Temple: 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462 <http://www.phillyrocks.org/>

March 24-25, 2018: 49th Annual Gem and Mineral Show sponsored by the Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club. Wysox Vol. Fire Co Social Hall, 111 Lake Rd; Wysox, PA www.chehannarocks.com

Classifieds

FOR SALE: I am selling a large percentage of my worldwide collection and thousands of Pennsylvania specimens, many self collected and old classics. There's plenty of variety, and plenty for different levels of collector interest. Anyone interested should call to set up an appointment. Thanks, Skip Colflesh, Hershey, PA phone 717-805-2027

Geo-Sudoku Solution

I	D	A	C	L	E	R	S	W
W	L	R	S	A	D	E	C	I
C	E	S	I	R	W	A	D	L
S	I	L	E	C	A	W	R	D
D	W	C	R	S	L	I	E	A
R	A	E	W	D	I	S	L	C
E	S	W	D	I	C	L	A	R
L	R	D	A	W	S	C	I	E
A	C	I	L	E	R	D	W	S

Visit us at www.nittanymineral.org

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!

CONTACT INFORMATION

mailing address:

**Nittany Mineralogical Society, Inc.
c/o S. Bingham, Treasurer
145 Goddard Cir.
Penna. Furnace PA 16865**

SOCIETY OFFICERS

David Glick (President) 814-237-1094 (h)
e-mail: xidg@verizon.net
Dr. Bob Altamura (Vice-President) 814-234-5011 (h)
e-mail: raltamura@comcast.net
John Dziak (Secretary)
e-mail: jjd264@psu.edu
Stuart Bingham (Treasurer)
E-mail: sebing145@comcast.net

OTHER CONTACTS

Field Trips: Ed Echler 814-424-8577 (new 2017)
e-mail preferred: eechler@comcast.net
Junior Rockhounds: Dr. Andrew Sicree
814-867-6263 (h) e-mail: aas132@psu.edu
Membership Chair: David Glick (see above)
Programs: Dr. Duff Gold 865-7261(o), 238-3377(h)
e-mail: gold@ems.psu.edu
Door Prizes: Dr. Bob Altamura (see above)
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:

David Glick E-mail: xidg@verizon.net
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. Photographs or graphics are encouraged, but 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.