

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, 2021

Visit our web site: www.nittanymineral.org

**December 15th:
Annual Holiday
Dinner
IN PERSON at
Quaker Steak &
Lube Restaurant**

Please join us!



On Wednesday, Dec. 15, 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 back of Nittany Mall), State College PA 16801, in their "Corvette Room" at the back of the restaurant. There is actually a real Corvette suspended from the ceiling above part of the Corvette room (photo below). 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. We will continue our past tradition where members can have a table at the dinner to sell minerals / fossils / gems / jewelry / rock crafts, so bring some cash. Details for sellers were in our November issue. See page 2 for a sales preview.



Thank you for your support

David Glick, President

It's been a long year, and NMS is grateful to those who have stuck with us, attending meetings or making presentations in person or via Zoom. To our members who have paid their dues to renew their membership, Thank You! Further sincere thanks go to the several members who have included donations with their dues. NMS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, so donations are tax deductible in accord with IRS regulations. Donations may be sent to the Treasurer at the mailing address on page 6. Another opportunity to support NMS will come at the December dinner, where we will have our t-shirts and some specimens for sale (see page 2).

Tentative schedule for early 2022: (meeting location to be announced)

Thanks to Program Chair Dr. Duff Gold and our speakers, we are very close to having a full schedule of programs for Spring:

January 19: The Seven Metals of Antiquity That Forged the Modern World, by Paul Fagley

February 16: Applied Paleontology, by Dr. Charles Miller, Jr.

March 16: Geode Night, by Jeff Smith

April or May: Landscapes and Geology of Pennsylvania, by Dr. Bob Altamura

Interactive Index & Viewer to Geo Maps

MapView Beta is now available from The National Geologic Map Database (NGMDB), <<http://ngmdb.usgs.gov/maps/mapview/>> (linked from our main page), with further information at <<https://catalog.data.gov/dataset/mapview-geologic-maps-of-the-nation-ngmdb>>.

"MapView lets you explore some of our favorite geologic maps from the NGMDB (USGS/AASG)... Welcome to the new mapView (beta)! This version of mapView uses a modern codebase and a redesigned interface that incorporates many of your comments and suggestions... For mapView, we've selected the most recent bedrock and surficial maps of the Nation, from the entire collection in the National Geologic Map Database's (NGMDB) national archive. From links in mapView, you can find, view, and download all other maps and reports in the NGMDB (over 106,000 publications)."

At the Holiday Dinner...

Bob Altamura will be selling his jewelry creations at the dinner; here are some examples of his work.



Crazy lace agate



Lapis



Labradorite



Rhodochrosite



Plume jasper



Leopardskin jasper



Picture jasper

NMS will be selling some items from our stock to raise funds. A few are pictured here.



Agate slab, polished, 4"



"Rattle agate" slab (handle with care!), 5"



Agate nodule, polished, 5"



Fluorite, Cave-in-Rock, Ill., 1.5". Ex-J.Passaneau



Stilbite on apophyllite, Nasik, India, 2.5".



Wulfenite, Chihuahua, Mexico, 2". Ex-J. Passaneau



Copper, Mich., 1.5". Ex-J. Passaneau



Celestine, Mich., 3". Ex-J.P.



Mimetite, Chihuahua, Mex., 2.7". Ex-J.P.



Fluorite, Rosiclare, Hardin County, Illinois, 4.5". Ex-John Passaneau.



Fluorite, Minerva #1 Mine, Cave-in-Rock, Illinois, 3". Ex-J. Passaneau.

Geo-Sudoku

by David Glick

This puzzle contains the letters ABEIMPSVW; one row or column includes interactive geologic software (note the extra clue in the letters). As usual, if you've read this issue, you've seen 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 6.

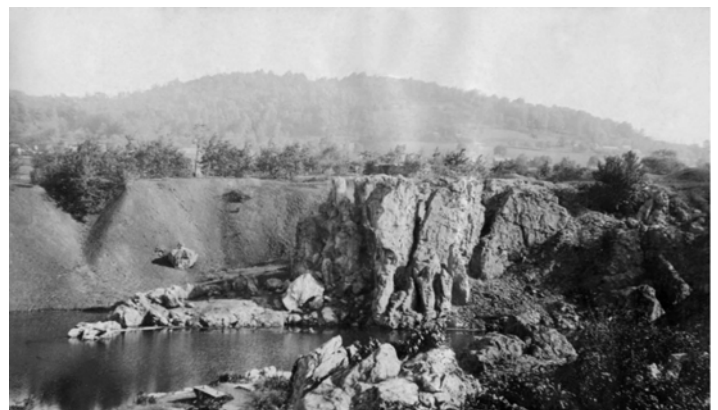
I	S			V		E	
β	V					M	
A			W	S	M	I	
V				E	S		P
			M		W	V	A
P		S	V		A		E
M		V		W			P
W		I				β	V

Pennsylvania Geology Magazine

The most recent issue of our state Survey's magazine (linked from our main page), Volume 51 No. 3, contains an article of interest to mineral collectors: The Checkered Past of Lanthanite-(Nd) from Friedensville, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania: Some Rare-Earth Minerals in Pennsylvania, no. 2. by Robert C. Smith, II, and John H. Barnes. The article includes the interesting historical detective story uncovering who discovered of lanthanite-(Nd) in the Friedensville mines, just where it might have been, and the history of the mineral's name ("neodymium had not yet been recognized as a separate element when lanthanite was first described). See the photo at right.

That article follows Part 1, which was in volume 49 number 1 of Pennsylvania Geology in 2019: A Saga Concerning the Identification of Chevkinite-(Ce), a Rare-Earth Titanosilicate from Northampton County, Pennsylvania.

-Editor



"This photograph of the Ueberroth pit of the Friedensville zinc mines was taken by Bureau geologist Charles Karsner Graeber on May 30, 1932. The mine was located on the farm of Jacob Ueberroth, for whom the mine was named. "The Ueberroth Mine was the first, largest, and most profitable of the Friedensville mines" and "operated continuously from 1853 to 1876" (Kaas, 2016)." To see more photographs from the Bureau's archives, please visit <<https://digitalarchives.powerlibrary.org/papd/islandora/object/papd%3Aaspgsl-photo>>

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. The AFMS News is linked from our web site, <<http://www.nittanymineral.org>>, and can be found at <http://www.amfed.org/afms_news.htm>. The EFMLS website at <<https://efmls.org/>>, also linked from the NMS site, is undergoing changes and the current Newsletter is not available there at this time (contact Dave Glick <xidg@verizon.net> if you'd like a copy).

The AFMS December-January issue is available on their web site. President Margaret Kolaczyk notes the regional representatives and new chairpersons. The safety article is about fire, and is reprinted on page 5 of this Bulletin. "An 8th Continent?" reports on research and an article in Geological Society of America's *Geology* about Zealandia, a fragment of the ancient supercontinent Gondwana.

The December EFMLS Newsletter shows lots of progress in getting the EFMLS back to normal operations. The Federation's Nominating Committee seeks everyone's assistance in finding nominations for these offices: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Editor, and Nominating Committee (4 members). Communications channels are being set up so that anyone can directly contact all EFMLS executive officers, regional officers, and committees. The President's message is reprinted at right.

Some December Door Prizes



Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Ellery Borow

from the December 2021 EFMLS News

There is a great deal of activity in the Eastern Federation with catching up on the business of the Federation. We have an Insurance Committee doing research, a newsletter Editor just finishing the latest edition, a Nominating Committee getting into high gear, an audit of the books being planned, as well as updating and streamlining of the website being discussed, maintaining a bevy of volunteers to address member club questions and helping with all the committee work.

There is more. A few weeks ago, a friend associated with the AFMS sent a photograph to me as a reminder as to what all this is about. The photograph depicted an experienced, older lapidary craftsman demonstrating work on a stone grinding and polishing machine. Around him was a small group of youngsters watching the work with rapt attention to what he was doing. The image reminded me what all this business is about - learning, sharing, teaching and the joys and enthusiasm with all three.

Whether it is teaching a lapidary class, watching a club program, attending a club field trip where attendees show one another their treasures and help identify the finds, so much of this hobby is about helping one another, showing kindness, and sharing one's joys. In other words - making our shared hobby be the best it can be.

In this season of holidays please keep in mind not just the jewelry making, specimens, fossils, and lapidary projects, but also the incredible people who share their passions, knowledge and friendship that gives our hobby its vibrance, its power, its enjoyment.

Happy Holidays to one and all.



Safety Matters - Fire Ellery Borow, AFMS Safety Chair



Fire--the very word can be terrifying. Rock-hound safety means more than wearing goggles, gloves, hearing protection and utilizing equipment guards. Rockhound safety is also about fire.

In our hobby we use fire at our campsites, club picnics and BBQs, when using silver and gold smithing torches, using cookstoves and driving automobiles. All of these may involve risks associated with fire.

To begin at the beginning, the best advice for dealing with fire is to prevent it from happening in the first place. The next best advice is to prepare for a fire's occurrence.

Entire books have been written about fire safety. Having an evacuation plan, keeping suitable fire extinguishers handy where fires are likely to occur, and having the recommended smoke detectors in place are all strongly recommended fire guidelines. Knowing the best place to locate an extinguisher, keeping it visible, keeping it inspected, and knowing how to use the extinguisher you choose are also strongly recommended.

A club safety person should be familiar with the fire issues related to the club meeting hall--emergency exits, fire extinguishers/hose locations, and specific building guidelines. Having every member familiar with these is also highly recommended.

Most people's first thought with a small fire is to put it out using a fire extinguisher. The fire extinguisher most often used is the dry chemical, multi-purpose type. This type is suitable for class A, B, and C fires. Class A is for wood, paper, trash having glowing embers and the like. Class B is for flammable liquids such as gasoline, oil, and grease etc. Class C is for electrical equipment fires.

Knowledge and understanding are required for proper use of a fire extinguisher, just as for any other piece of equipment. Generally, their use is intuitive--though some have a button to press, or a pin to be pulled before the release trigger can be activated. Once the fire extinguisher is active, point the nozzle toward the base

of the fire (not the flame itself) and pull the trigger. If the fire is a bit larger, a side to side sweeping motion may be more effective in putting out the fire. Calling a fire department is recommended if there is the slightest doubt about a fire being out.

One of a fire extinguisher's primary purposes is to allow occupants to safely exit the building. It is a judgement call as to what can and cannot be safely extinguished with a hand-held extinguisher. Fire extinguishers come in a wide variety of sizes. Small ones are about the size of a spray whipped cream container and range up to heavy canisters weighing about 25 pounds. It is advisable to have extinguishers suitable to one's ability to lift the weight. Good places to have a fire extinguishers include kitchens, basements, workshops, motor vehicles and any place open flame might be found.

Many, if not most, community fire departments offer training, classes, and workshops, as well as house and shop evaluations about fire safety. States and communities often have specific fire prevention recommendations. It would be wise to have knowledge and understanding of those rules and regulations.

This article is not in any way a comprehensive discussion of all matters regarding fire safety. It is recommended that additional reading be done regarding your particular situation and needs. One additional comment will be about the wisdom regarding the unseen danger of carbon monoxide (CO) in homes. CO detectors are mandatory by fire codes in most, if not all, states.

My thanks to one of our readers for suggesting a safety message about fire safety.

Your safety matters - always.

NMS BOARD MEETING NOTICE

NMS members are invited to attend Board of Directors meetings, which are generally held at 7:00 p.m. about two weeks prior to the general monthly meeting, although we do not meet every month. The next date has not been set. Members who would like to attend should contact president David Glick to verify time and place; those who would like to have their discussion item placed on the agenda should contact him at least one week in advance of the meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Confirm details of events before attending.

Jan. 29, 2022: Geology Museum Open House & Mineral Sale - VIRTUAL SHOW - 9:00a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Rutgers State University, Geology Hall 2nd Floor, 85 Somerset St., New Brunswick, NJ 08901
More information should be available soon at <https://geologymuseum.rutgers.edu/museum-events/annual-open-house>

Mar. 5-6, 2022: 58th Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show, by Delaware Mineralogical Society. Double Tree by Hilton Hotel, 4727 Concord Pike (Route 202), Wilmington, DE. Sat 10-5, Sun. 11-5.
www.DMSrocks.org

Mar. 26-27, 2022: Annual Show, by Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club. Wysox Volunteer Fire Co. Social Hall, 111 Lake Road, Wysox, PA. Sat 9-5, Sun. 10-4.
<http://www.chehannarocks.com/>

Mar. 26-27, 2022: 2022 Mineral Treasures and Fossil Fair by Philadelphia Mineralogical Society and Delaware Valley Paleontological Society
Lulu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA., (PA Turnpike, exit 333; or I-476, exit 20) Free Parking. Saturday March 26, 10 am to 5 pm; Sunday, March 27, 10 am to 4 pm.
<http://www.phillyrocks.org>

Geo-Sudoku Solution

I	S	M	β	A	V	P	E	W
β	V	W	E	I	P	S	M	A
A	P	E	W	S	M	I	β	V
V	W	β	A	E	S	M	P	I
E	I	P	M	β	W	V	A	S
S	M	A	P	V	I	E	W	β
P	β	S	V	M	A	W	I	E
M	E	V	I	W	β	A	S	P
W	A	I	S	P	E	β	V	M

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:
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c/o S. Bingham, Treasurer
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Penna. Furnace PA 16865

SOCIETY OFFICERS

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e-mail: se6@psu.edu
Stuart Bingham (Treasurer)
e-mail: sebing145@comcast.net

OTHER CONTACTS

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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
425 Armagast Rd. phone: (814) 810-2116 (h)
Bellefonte, PA 16823-9762

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 (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