

Nittany Mineralogical Society Bulletin

Nittany Mineralogical Society, Inc., meeting in State College, Pennsylvania

Contact information on back page

February, 2023

Visit our web site: www.nittanymineral.org

Editor (see back page):

David C. Glick

**February 15th meeting,
IN PERSON at BOAL HALL or via ZOOM:**

A Modernized Stratigraphic Framework: Revising and Reconciling Stratigraphy Across Pennsylvania

**by Hailey Filippeli, Geoscientist
Pennsylvania Geological Survey**

Our February meeting will be held Wednesday the 15th in Boal Hall (Boalsburg Fire Hall), 113 East Pine St., Boalsburg, PA 16827. Maps can be found on our web site.

7:15 to 7:45 p.m.: Social "hour." We will serve some refreshments - snacks and a few beverages - or feel free to bring your own non-alcoholic beverage.

*7:45 to 8:00 p.m.: Announcements, door prizes, sales
about 8:00 p.m.: featured program via Zoom*

Our speaker will make her presentation remotely via Zoom; we will still meet at Boal Hall to watch on the big screen.

*The event has free admission and free parking (lot just east of Fire Hall along East Pine St.), and is open to all; **parents/guardians must provide supervision of minors.** Bring your friends and share an interesting evening.*

*We hope you will join us in person, but if you can't, the **Zoom link** will be e-mailed to all paid members who receive our e-mails. Others are welcome to request it by e-mailing <xidg@verizon.net>. We plan to record the presentation for later posting to our web site. -Editor*

The most recent comprehensive stratigraphic framework produced by the Pennsylvania Geological Survey (PaGS) was released 40 years ago with the publication of the Stratigraphic Correlation Chart of Pennsylvania (Berg and others, 1983). Since then, our understanding of the stratigraphic framework of Pennsylvania has evolved and has been documented in a variety of maps and reports but has not been consolidated into a cohesive document. This wide dispersal of information, at best, can hamper regional map compilation. At worst, it confuses our understanding of the geologic history and character of natural resource systems important to Pennsylvania's human and economic health. Through the use of the Pennsylvania Geological Survey's publications and other references, survey staff interviews, and input from subject matter experts (via our stratigraphic forum series), we begin the initial stages of stratigraphic reconciliation and compilation for the state of

Pennsylvania. The initial stage of this process involved an extensive literature review of all geologic units that have been referenced in PaGS publications. This review revealed past inconsistencies that had yet to be resolved and current inconsistencies that had yet to be discovered. Following an internal review of these conflicts, feedback from the geologic community is sought. Through this continuous open discussion with professionals throughout the community, fostered by the PaGS Stratigraphic Forum Series, we address inconsistencies in nomenclature and correlation across the Commonwealth. Questions with quick resolutions are addressed, and solutions for more challenging stratigraphic conflicts are obtained, though some questions leave us at a crossroads and requiring further investigation. These results will guide upcoming research at the PaGS and within the community. Modernizing the stratigraphic framework of Pennsylvania and condensing this information into a single, comprehensive format is imperative. Ultimately, it will enable consistency in geologic units across the state, facilitate communication of geologic information, ease stratigraphic reconciliation with neighboring states, and enable future map compilation.

Free Symposium on Zoom Feb. 11

Featuring Penn State's own Dr. Peter Heaney on agate and EFMLS Pres. Bill Stephens on Herkimer "diamonds."

Feb. 11, 2023: Tucson Mineral Symposium on Silica Minerals, free via Zoom; **register at** <https://www.friendsofmineralogy.org/2023-tucson-mineral-symposium/>

A Social Gathering: Dinner Feb. 21

Announcing NMS Social Dinner 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at Outback Steakhouse, 1905 Waddle Rd, State College, PA 16803. Arrive by 5:30 p.m. and join the group; order from the menu and pay individually. Thanks go to organizer Charlie Miller!

Minerals Junior Ed. Day March 25

Minerals Junior Education Day is coming up fast - Saturday, March 25, 2023! At this event, students in grades 1-8, accompanied by their parents, learn about some aspect of minerals, earth sciences or lapidary, and get specimens to take home. Volunteer station leaders and Coordinator Frank Kowalczyk have made great progress, with eight stations planned, and a few more likely. We'll

have details at the regular meetings and on the web site. Please **volunteer to help** at this rewarding event. Donations of minerals, books, etc., for the sales table are also welcomed - make arrangements in advance, so that we can get them organized and priced. Contact Frank Kowalczyk: frank.j.kowalczyk@gmail.com or 814-404-9854.

Geo-Sudoku

by David Glick

This puzzle contains the letters ACEHKORVY. One row or column spells something that might hurt your back (2 words). 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 4.

		E		R				
R		H			O	K	A	E
V			A			H		
	Y	K		O		V	H	
	V					Y	E	A
				Y				
		V			K	A		
Y				E	V		K	H
						E	V	C

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 encourage our readers to read their monthly newsletters. The AFMS News is linked from our web site, <<http://www.nittanymineral.org>>, found at <http://www.amfed.org/afms_news.htm>. The Eastern Federation now has the February Newsletter on its web site (use Chrome if Firefox does not work). Back issues are also available; for the password, contact David Glick (see back page).

The AFMS February Newsletter begins with President Cheryl Neary noting the many things that are *new* in the New Year. Minutes of an Executive Committee meeting from Dec. 8 are presented. AFMS's section for juniors, Future Rockhounds of America, has a new web site: <www.juniors.amfed.org/fra>. Jim Brace-Thompson reports on his new position as AFMS Public Relations Chair. Awards and award recipients are noted.

The Eastern Federation's February Newsletter includes a message from president Bill Stephens, who is on a trip to Tucson to make a presentation on Herkimer "diamonds" at the Tucson Mineral Symposium on silica minerals, Feb. 11. He's calling for volunteers for chair various EFMLS committees. The safety article covers safety of our backs as we bend, lift and carry those heavy rocks, lapidary machines, show cases, etc.

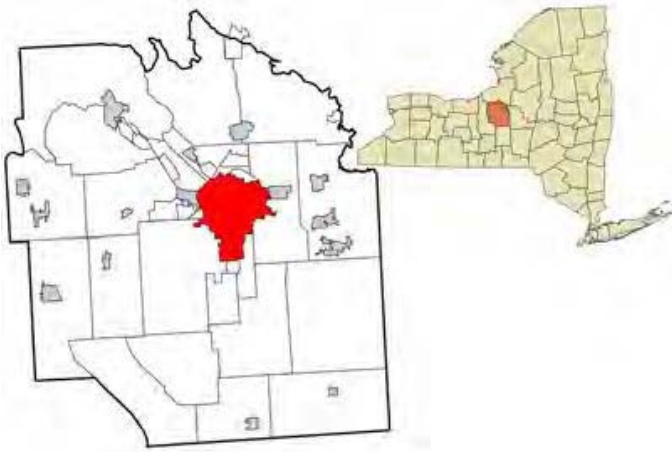
FEBRUARY MEETING DOOR PRIZES

Agate geode (3"); nice tumble-polished tigereye (1.4"); fern fossils, probably from St. Clair, PA (7").



EFMLS CONVENTION:**Syracuse, New York July 7-9**

from EFMLS News February 2023 Vol. 70, no.4



This year the convention will be held in Syracuse in July. Next month there will be a great deal of information about the convention and annual meeting, but for now, please mark your calendar, the event is 07/07-07/09 and will be here in a blink of an eye.

Cheryl Brown is the show chairperson for the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse (GMSS). The GMSS is no strangers for hosting the EFMLS Convention. I have been there several times with the EFMLS. They also hosted the AFMS.

My first year as Auction chair was in Syracuse many moons ago!

Talk about the auction. Please plan on donating items to the EFMLS. There are several ways you can do this. Contact me directly to ship to me, if you are not attending the convention, or get in touch with your Regional VP to make arrangements. Please consider donating an item. However, if that is not possible, how about a monetary donation to the auction. The monies received are deposited in the Eastern Endowment Fund. The interest from the endowment fund is utilized for special project, which affects the clubs.

You will see an article about the AFMS Endowment Fund by Larry Huffman in this newsletter. He is the EFMLS chairperson for AFMS. Wonderful things have happened with the Juniors program in the AFMS largely due to the contributions by the Endowment Fund.

Hope to see a great deal of you in Syracuse!

This Place Called Syracuse

There are several states in America that have cities/towns named Syracuse. This included, Indiana, Kansas,

Missouri, Nebraska, New York, Ohio, South Carolina and Utah. However, the Syracuse I am referring to is a city located in New York. It is basically located in the center of New York State. As a point of reference, it is located to the northwest of NYC and by automobile is approximately 4.5 hours.

Syracuse has an airport – Syracuse Hancock International Airport. The following major carriers serve the airport:

Allegiant Air	Frontier
American Airlines	Jet Blue
Breeze Airways	Southwest
Delta	

The city of Syracuse was named after the Italian city Syracuse, (Siracusa) which is located on the eastern coast of the island of Sicily. It was at one time the chief Greek city of ancient Sicily. In 735 BC, the area was settled by the Corinthians led by the aristocrat Archias, and the city soon dominated the coastal plain and hill country.

The name Syracuse became the official name when in 1820, residents applied to the federal government for a post office. At that time the area was known as Corinth and previously Milan.

However, there was already a post office in NY called Corinth. A committee was formed which included John Wilkinson who suggested the name Syracuse after reading about Siracusa in Italy and finding similarities between the ancient city in Italy and the area, which at one time was known as Salt Point and Webster's Landing. Webster's Landing was named after Ephraim Webster's first trading post. Prior to the trading post, the area was referred to as Bogardus Corners and Cossitt's Corners, both proprietors of the first village tavern.

The same time the area was given its own post office, the Erie Canal had reached the area.

Syracuse is located in Onondaga County. The area was named after the one of the original nations of the Iroquois Confederacy. Onondaga means "The Peoples of the Hills".

Syracuse is located approximately 400 feet above sea level. The region of the Greater Syracuse area is rolling hills with flat plains. It stretches for the southern end of Onondaga Lake north approximately 30 miles where it meets Lake Ontario. Basically, land to the north is the flat plains while to the south is the hills.

More about Syracuse to follow next month!

Syracuse, NY Hotels, Restaurants, Events & Things To Do: www.visitsyracuse.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Confirm details of events before attending.

<https://efmls.org/events/list/>

See other show calendar links on our web site.

Feb. 11, 2023: Tucson Mineral Sympos.(Silica Minerals) free via Zoom; See <https://www.friendsofmineralogy.org/2023-tucson-mineral-symposium/>

March 4-5 2023: 59th Annual Earth Science Gem and Mineral Show, by Delaware Mineralogical Society. Double Tree by Hilton, 4727 Concord Pike (Rt. 202), Wilmington, DE 19803, Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Sunday 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. See <https://www.dmsrocks.org/news-updates-1>

March 25-26, 2023: 43rd Annual Franklin County Rock, Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show, by Franklin County Rock and Mineral Club. Eugene C. Clark Jr. Community Center, 253 South 3rd St., Chambersburg PA 17201. Sat. 10:00-5:00, Sun. 10:00-4:00.

March 25-26, 2023: 53rd Annual Show, by Che-Hanna Rock and Mineral Club. Wysox Vol. Fire Hall, 111 Lake Rd., Wysox, PA. Sat. 9:00-5:00, Sun. 10:00-4:00. See <http://www.chehannarocks.com/show.html>

March 25-26, 2023: Mineral Treasures and Fossil Fair, by Philadelphia Mineralogical Society and Delaware Valley Paleontological Society, with demonstrations by Leidy Microscopical Society. Lulu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA., (PA Turnpike, exit 333; or I-476, exit 20) Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. See www.phillyrocks.org

May 15-21, 2023: Wildacres 2023 session, North Carolina. See <https://efmls.org/wildacres/>

July 7-9, 2023: EFMLS Annual Convention in Syracuse, NY hosted by Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, NY.

July 22-23, 2023: Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show, by Monongahela Rockhounds. West Mifflin Vol. Fire Co. #4, 660 Noble Dr., Pittsburgh PA 15122. Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4. <https://www.monongahelarockhounds.org/events-shows>

Geo-Sudoku Solution

A	O	E	K	R	H	C	Y	V
R	C	H	Y	V	O	K	A	E
V	K	Y	A	C	E	H	R	O
C	Y	K	E	O	A	V	H	R
O	V	R	H	K	C	Y	E	A
H	E	A	V	Y	R	O	C	K
E	R	V	C	H	K	A	O	Y
Y	A	C	O	E	V	R	K	H
K	H	O	R	A	Y	E	V	C

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

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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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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