



ROCK PICKENS



ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB Date: December, 2023

Our next scheduled mineral club will be the second Tuesday in March at 5:30 PM at the Canton, NY Library.

President: William deLorraine
Vice President: Scott Sutherland
Secretary: Joanna deLorraine
Treasurer: Melissa Zeallor
Field Trip Coordinator: Gary Garlough, Preston Zeallor
Webmaster: Glen Simonelli
Effective– December 31, 2023

www.stlawrencecountymineralclub.org
e-mail: wdellie@gmail.com

Rock On!

Mineral of the Month

december



BLUE TOPAZ

December is not only home to the birthstone, blue topaz, but it is also the month of two powerful zodiac signs. Both Sagittarius and Capricorn are unique and are strong signs in astrology.

Sagittarius are explorers at heart, while the Capricorn is ambitious.

Topaz is a crystalline mineral in the silicate group. It has a chemical formula of $Al_2SiO_4(F,OH)_2$, and that "F," fluorine, makes it an uncommon mineral.

***** Club Dues *****

Dues are only **\$15.00** for a Single Membership and **\$25.00** for Family Memberships (*per household @ the same mailing address*) and run through December 31st, 2024

Make checks payable to: **St. Lawrence Rock and Mineral Club** and mail them to:

Melissa Zeallor; Treasurer
St. Lawrence Rock and Mineral Club
1846 St. Hwy. 72
Potsdam, NY 13676

Hit control - click to follow link below to go to our FB page and sign in as a new member or open if already a member:



<https://www.facebook.com/share/GjDRTTK3wuP1cTda/?mibextid=K35XfP>



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Upcoming Gem, Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry Shows

February 2024 Union Hall, 100 Nasser Civic Center Plaza, Corning, New York

March 16-17 54th Annual show Buffalo Geological Society. Erie County Fairgrounds in the Grange, Market and New York State Police Buildings in Hamburg, NY, on Saturday, 9 am-7 pm and Sunday, 9 am-6 pm.

April 13-14 - JOHNSON CITY, NEW

YORK: Annual show; New York Southern Tier Geology Club Annual Show; Johnson Senior Center, 30 Brockton Ave; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Adults \$4; Children 12 and up, \$3.50; Under 12 free, \$.50

August 24-25—CANTON, NY: 57th Annual show; St. Lawrence Rock & Mineral Club; at the Pavilion, 90 Lincoln St; Canton, NY. Sat. 9-4:30; Sun. 9-3; Adults \$4, Children 12 & under free; (315) 287-2560
Website: stlawrencecountymineralclub.org

Notes & Minutes from the November Meeting

16 members attended the meeting. We went around the room with introductions. Bill introduced Dino Zack prior to his presentation on Fluorescent Minerals. Dino and his family, Amy, Colton, and Carley reside in Buffalo, NY. He graduated from U. Buffalo and is Senior Project manager/ Senior Geologist at AECOM (almost 25 years). He is a

Certified Professional Geologist and Safety Trainer in NY and Alaska. He has spent many years in Massena doing clean up and reclamation work for Alcoa and General Motors, etc. and works closely with the Akwesasne Nation getting admittance to sites on the reservation for environmental remediation. He does a tremendous amount of work for our club, including the children's fluorescent mineral hunt, and running the mineral kits for kids, which has become a very popular event with over 300 kits being handed out this year.

During off months Dino is busy collecting minerals for the kids and last year, made fluorescent kits up which he sold to buy black lights for the club to use in the fluorescent hunt for kids.

Dino brought many specimens with him that were illuminated with the different types of black lights, LW, SW, and Mid Wave. Dino made note during his talk that the former Dale Bush Farm is now referred to as the Reese Farm.

Melissa Zeallor live-streamed the meeting on FB for the first time ever. We had quite a few visitors.

Melissa, Treasurer, gave the Treasurer's Report to members.

Under New Business: Bill asked whether or not the scholarship checks had been cashed and Melissa replied that St. Lawrence, "yes" and Potsdam, "not yet".



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Bill announced the Christmas Party which will be held at Jumbo's in Gouverneur on Dec. 16th. We talked about the election of officers to be held at that meeting. The dinner buffet will include: Roasted Chicken Florentine, Sliced Beef Thyme Au Jus, Salmon, with Lemon Herb Sauce, Vegetables, Pasta Primavera, potatoes, and Cake for dessert. Nonalcoholic beverages.

Preston and Melissa talked about Melissa doing wire wrapping classes during the winter months when we do not have meetings, teaching classes on ring or pendant making. She suggested having meetings in a variety of different towns such as Canton, Potsdam and Gouverneur so as to vary the travel distances for participants. Materials would be supplied at limited cost to the club, less than \$100.00 for tools and beads. There may be a minimal charge for participants of a dollar or two to recoup costs for the supplies. Children Welcome!

Bill announced that before December, By-Laws will be sent out to all current members with a few small changes marked for approved.

There will be no meetings in January and February. Possible zoom meetings if there is an interest.

The Door Prize of Quartz from Haunted Ridge, Cadet, MO was won by Dino Zack. Dino also gave away some fluorescent minerals as extra door prizes.

Bob talked about the new flyer that Melissa created and which was passed around the room for inspection. He also mentioned Face Book. He has a FB page which, as was explained, should be used for events for the club and open to everyone. Melissa meanwhile set up a new FB Group, but the group would be just for members only. It was somewhat confusing because both have the same name. They discussed changing the name of the member's Group and said they would get together to decide what was best for our club to make it easier to reach the correct destination.

Barb made the motion to adjourn the meeting; Dino 2nd the motion 7:00 PM.

A great big thank you to Dino for his excellent presentation and coming out from weeks of a long survival stay in the deep woods. If you ever need a fire started from scratch, Dino is your man!

Minutes from the December 16th Christmas Dinner Meeting & Election of Officers

21 members and guests attended the Christmas Dinner Party at Jumbo's Diner in Gouverneur on December 16th. A buffet dinner was served and after that President Bill deLorraine gave a slide show on the Titan Mines in Balmat with slides of new and exciting minerals that have come out recently. Kirk Fallon, dinner guest from Titan Mines, addressed many questions about the mine. Door prizes were given to everyone attending; thanks to the



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club and esp. to Jerry Curcio who brought many gifts to give so everyone would have one to take home. The slate of officers for the club was voted on and approved after sending to all members, either those attending the dinner or by email to those who were not able to attend.

Melissa Zeallor is leading a jewelry wire wrapping class on Saturday, January 13th at the Knights of Columbus building in Canton. We had a big round of applause for our server and also for chef Tyler and noted as well that there is a breakfast buffet the next day on the 17th, at Jumbos. They have a buffet every other Sunday.

2024-2025 Officers as Follows:

President- Bill deLorraine
VP- Preston Zeallor
Treasurer- Melissa Zeallor
Secretary- Joanna deLorraine

A motion was made by Bob Tailon to accept the ballot and 2nd by Linda Schnittger, the slate of officers unanimously approved. Following the election of officers, the update to the by-laws was passed. Copies of the amended bylaws were emailed to all members prior to the meeting seeking suggestions for improvements, corrections, or additions. There were a few good suggestions by two respondents which were incorporated, most of which were grammar and spacing. Jerry Curcio made the motion to accept the changes to the by-laws; Linda Schnittger 2nd the motion. All were favor. At the closure of the meeting, Bill thanked everyone who attended and spoke about in the near future having to give consideration to bringing the Club's By-Laws up to date and current with such things as electronic voting via the internet, and other possible "cyberspace" issues.



Club members at Jumbo's



This Cake looked so pretty; we almost didn't want to eat it!



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Notes From the President



Alissa poses with the Club cake and Poinsettias at Jumbo's



As the year draws to a close, I look back on it and breathe sighs of both relief and contentment. We had a busy year, a really good annual show at the Canton Pavilion, a great Christmas party and we signed up many new members. I'm relieved because all of the work done in preparation for the show is over with and we pulled it off I think with the greatest success ever! We have many new members. They have brought lots of new ideas, vitality, and energy along with them and a willingness to dig in and participate in the club's activities; moreover, to plan and execute some new ones. I'm looking forward to working with our new VP, and other members who signed up for posts such as "Show Chair", "Field Trip Coordinator", "Advertising Chair"; -- it just seems that now there's going to be a lot more help and participation -- and I'm excited about it. We're making progress folks. And coming up in the world, so to speak. We are getting more and more great feedback from our show patrons and from our vendors. Our efforts are yielding fruits. I'm not sure that I told you, but I saw where Pavilion Director Meghan posted --live on FB -- a photo of our busy show floor



"No such thing as too Many Rocks!"



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exhorting all to come to see the show! I had no idea that she was doing this! What a great thought!

Looking forward to next year, I see more field trips coming up, and some new ones thrown into the mix as well.

We're going to have wire wrapping classes during the winter months, thanks to Melissa Zeallor. Later on, there'll be more classes with both Dave Millis and Melissa at the forefront of those.

Before I get too long-winded, I'd like to thank new members Barry and Mark for their work in procuring a really nice facility for wire wrapping classes, the Knights of Columbus Club in Canton, NY. And also, for treating the first class there to several positively yummy pizzas! Thans so much guys!

I'd also like to thank one of the most generous collectors that I know, Jerry Curcio. During the Christmas Dinner party, Jerry brought gifts aplenty; enough specimens and gifts so that everyone there won a door prize! I was especially grateful because mine was the last ticket drawn, LOL. Happy Holidays everyone and Happy New Year! --Bill--