

# ROCK PICKENS

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB Date: May 2014

## May 2014

The next meeting will be held on Wed, May 7th, 6:00 pm at the Canton Public Library. Pot Luck dinner before the meeting; bring a dish to pass and table service.

**President: William deLorraine**

**Vice President: Scott Sutherland**

**Secretary: Joanna deLorraine**

**Treasurer: Chris Sutherland**

**Field Trip Coordinator:**

**Jerry Curcio**

**Advertising: Heather O'Hara**

**Newsletter Editor: Bill deLorraine**

**Webmaster: Glenn Simonelli**

## 2014 Membership Dues from August 2013 to August 2014

**Please make sure we have your current e-mail address**

We strive to send all newsletters by e-mail

**315-287-4652 or [wdellie@gmail.com](mailto:wdellie@gmail.com)**

Please mail dues to: Chris Sutherland; Treasurer, 287 Cty. Rd. 29, Canton, NY 13617

**Single Membership: \$10.00.**

**Family Membership: (Family members under the same roof at the same mailing address): \$20.00**

## **THE CLUB'S WEBSITE:**

[www.stLawrencecountymineralclub.org](http://www.stLawrencecountymineralclub.org)

## Upcoming Shows 2014

**JUNE 7-8;** Annual Mineral, Gen, Jewelry, fossil Show, Sell & Swap sponsored by the Orange Co. Mineral Society, Museum Village, 1010 Route 17M, Monroe, NY

**July 12-13** Syracuse Rock and Mineral Club, Syracuse

<http://www.gmss.us/annual-show>

**July 31- Aug 1-2** Bancroft Jamboree, Bancroft, Ontario, Canada

**Aug 8-10** Springfield, MA Gem and Mineral Show

**Aug 22-24** St. Lawrence County Club Show, Madrid, NY

<http://www.stlawrencecountymineralclub.org/>

Saturday Field Trip to Bush Farm, brown tourmaline; Sunday Field Trip to Powers Farm (doubly terminated black tourmaline, smoky quartz )

**Available now:** "Collector's Guide to the Minerals of New York State" by Drs. [Steven Chamberlain](#) and [George Robinson](#). You can purchase a copy at any of our meetings.

## Minutes from the Last Meeting.

04/02/2014

9 members were in attendance.

Joanna read the minutes of the last meeting. Chris gave the treasurer's report. We have received thank-you notes from St. Lawrence University and Potsdam for the \$500.00 scholarships from our club. SUNY Potsdam We talked about the club funding 1/2 of the money for "The Collector's Guide to the Minerals of New York State" by Dr. Steven C. Chamberlain and Dr. George W. Robinson. We sold three copies at the meeting. Sue and George Robinson attended the meeting and Sue's recollection was that it was published in 2013. Bill deLorraine purchased all copies that Amazon had left for the club. Bob Taillon contacted Judy Hardgrave from Madrid town offices and reported that we are all set with the deposit and the show dates for this year. The Library is all set for our meetings to be held on the first Wednesday of each month, instead of Thursday. This works well for the club as there are later hours on Wed. at the library and no one has to go early to pick up a key. Bill noted that the bottle drive for black lights for the kids' fluorescent mineral hunt

48th Annual  
**Gem & Mineral Show & Swap**  
Sat., Aug. 23 • 9am-4:30pm  
Sun., Aug. 24 • 9am-3pm  
Madrid Municipal Park & Community Center  
Intersection of State Rt. 310 & 345  
Free Admission! Auction Saturday 5 pm  
Indoor / Outdoor Show Featuring...Crystals, Gemstones, Jewelry & Bead Vendors, Guided Mineral Collecting Trips, Wire Wrapping, Lessons and More!  
**St. Lawrence County Rock & Mineral Club**  
[www.StLawrenceCountyMineralClub.org](http://www.StLawrenceCountyMineralClub.org)



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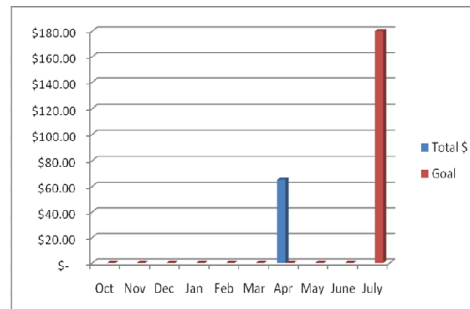
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is accelerating. Jerry Curcio, Bill and Ken gave donations (see bottle drive chart below). Black lights cost about \$90.00 as a discounted rate to our club. Heather O'Hara is our new Advertising Chairperson. Thank You Heather for kindly stepping up and taking on this very important chair. Jerry Curcio, our Field Trip Coordinator, spoke about the Herkimer Diamond trip. He has spoken to Ted Smith of the Ace of Diamonds Mine who suggested a smaller group of 1-3 people. There was quite a lot of discussion on the club being a part of the "guaranteed pocket" trip and the finances involved. Strong reservations were voiced and the club's part in this venture was strongly opposed as the proposed large expenditure of \$1500 would violate the charter of a non-profit group such as ours, some who might want to go could not attend, etc. Others noted it would be a good venture and bring positive feelings for our members. It was mentioned that maybe a small amount for a stipend for gas, etc. could be given by the club. No motions were made on this topic. The notion that the large outlay required for the venture might violate the spirit of the organization's "raison d'etre" had not been raised previously and it was a point very well taken and very apropos. There were some sites mentioned by Jerry for possible field trips. Lancto, Barret Quarry, Powers, Emery's Marble. Jerry will work on dates and places for next meeting. Bill

noted we are still looking for a programs chairperson. No volunteers as of yet. George Robinson graciously volunteered to speak at one of our meetings in the future. Bill noted that he will be giving a talk at St. Lawrence University on geology April 18th. The meeting was adjourned.

## Black Light Bottle Drive 2014



## Mineral of The Month: Hexagonite:



Gouverneur Talc Company Arnold Open Pit Mine, Fowler, NY.

Photo: 2003 John H. Betts

A variety of [Tremolite](#) supposedly a hexagonal form of Tremolite, but shown to be monoclinic. A manganoan variety distinguished by its pale lilac to purplish color. Originally reported from Edwards,

Balmat-Edwards Zinc District, St Lawrence Co., New York, USA.

Visit [gemdat.org](http://gemdat.org) for [gemological information about Hexagonite](#). Currently in public beta-test.

## Penfield Quarry Open House

will be held on Saturday, May 3rd from 7am to 12 noon at 746 Whalen Rd., Penfield, NY 14526. Please arrive early to sign in & hear safety talk he will give at about 6:50am. All ages are welcome - children must be well-supervised & wear a bicycle helmet, safety glasses & sturdy footwear. Adults must wear a hard hat, safety glasses & sturdy footwear (steel-toed boots, although not required, are a good idea if you have them). Everyone Must be in the upper parking lot outside the office at 12 noon - no stragglers, please.

You must stay back 20' from walls & drop-offs, and no climbing on walls is allowed. Power equipment is allowed - please warn those around you before starting equipment. The quarry has made a special request this year that experienced rockhounds will please assist those who are new to the quarry environment & collecting. Recommended Tools: Rock hammers,



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chisels (mason's, not woodworking), pry bars, handheld & long-handled sledgehammers to name a

few. Gloves, sunscreen, lots of water & fluids, snacks, too. Hope to find: Fluorite, Calcite, Celestine,

Sphalerite, Dolomite, Selenite, Gypsum, Fossils, Galena, Pyrite, Marcasite needles, Sulphur (rare).

***Our Field Trip Coordinator, Jerry Curcio, has been busy working on this seasons' field trip schedule. It's a work in progress at this juncture but Jerry contacted the Wayne County club and secured permission for us to "tag along" with them on their field trips and vice versa. The following are the Field Trips that we can attend:***

**May 10 (Saturday)** – Alden, NY for pyrite nodules and pyritized fossils Park at the north end of Dollar General's parking lot. We'll be going down to the creek at 9 AM looking for pyritized nodules & ammonites. Expect mud, water and a 1/2 mile walk. It's always a good time. Leader – Bill Chapman

**May 17 (Sat.)** - Penn-Dixie Fossil Park, Hamburg, NY Leader - Gary Thomas  
*Dig with the Experts, \$30 fee (\$25 for members) for details: [www.penndixie.org](http://www.penndixie.org) or 716-627-4560*

**May 31-June 1 - (Sat-Sun)** - St. Lawrence Country Trip #1 Leader – Fred Haynes  
*Rose Road in Pitcairn, Fine area, Benson Mines (exact schedule depends on availability)*

**June 21-22 (Sat-Sun)** – St. Lawrence County Trip #2 Leader – Fred Haynes  
*Selleck Road (tremolite, fluor-uvite), Powers Farms (dravite), smoky quartz, uralite, pyrite, apatite, biotite*

**June 29 (Sunday)** - Alden, NY for pyrite nodules and pyritized fossils, see May 3rd

**July 19 (Saturday)** – Canandaigua Lake excursion, multiple sites, very kid friendly

**To sign up, e-mail Bill Chapman at [batnpill@empacc.net](mailto:batnpill@empacc.net) or call 607-868-4649.**

Additional field trip plans are in the works and as these are firmed up they will be reported and posted on the website as well.

**Notes From the Prez:** To all club members: Once again we have the opportunity to put on an exhibition at the Gouverneur Museum. The proposal is to have an **exhibition featuring geodes**; "Big ones, little ones, round ones, straight-sided ones, Cathedral-shaped ones, purple ones, yellow ones, brown ones, white ones, quartz-filled, calcite-filled, celestine-filled; you name it, we got it!". The show will run for a month and the museum's board is planning a reception to open the exhibit. Believe me, they put on a professional grade reception that will amaze you! Below is a note I received from Joe Laurenza, curator of the museum:

The room at the museum for the exhibit will be available from Saturday, September 6th until Saturday, November 1st. . The exhibit will run from September 17th through October 18th.

That will give exhibitors plenty of time before and after to set up their display and take it down. Please keep these dates in mind and consider contributing your time, resources, and energies to this event sponsored by the Gouverneur Museum in conjunction with the St. Lawrence County Rock and Mineral Club.