

# ROCK PICKENS

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB Date: August 2020

## FIELD TRIPS:

## August

*President: William deLorraine  
Vice President: Roy Rosenbarker  
Treasurer: Phoebe Rogerson  
Secretary: Joanna deLorraine  
Field Trip Coordinator: Gary Garlough  
Webmaster: Glen Simonelli*

*Effective January 01, 2020 – January 01, 2022*



[www.stlawrencecountymineralclub.org](http://www.stlawrencecountymineralclub.org)  
e-mail: [wdellie@gmail.com](mailto:wdellie@gmail.com)

Mail checks for annual dues 8/ 2020 – 8/ 2021 to:

**William deLorraine; President  
St. Lawrence Rock and Mineral Club  
1 Indian Head Trail  
Gouverneur, NY 13642**

**Club Dues are:  
\$15.00 Single Membership  
\$25.00 Family Membership (per household @  
the same mailing address)**

**2020-2021 dues payable on or before Aug 31<sup>st</sup>.**

## Saturday August 22<sup>nd</sup>

Trip to Benson Mines 9:00; meet at old IGA in Star Lake 8:30; Rose Rd. if time allows. Our club paid \$550.00 for rake over of "pegmatite pile".

Possible stop at the Valentine in Harrisville for blue calcite on way home. New material added out front.

## Sunday August 23<sup>rd</sup>:

Picnic at Gouverneur Community Park 11:30-1:00 pm; followed by classes on jewelry making or gem trees or nifty new craft utilizing Benson Mine mica! ~1—4 PM

We may be able to get a local vendor with hotdog and burger truck to set up at the pavilion for this event. Or bring your own food and settings, drinks to the picnic. Let us know if you plan to attend so we can make arrangements. More info. and details coming soon.

Email us at [wdellie@gmail.com](mailto:wdellie@gmail.com) with suggestions for future field trips.

## Rock & Mineral Shows

### Mid-Hudson Valley Gem & Mineral Soc. Show & Sale

Start Date: 9/19/2020

End Date: 9/20/2020

258 Titusville Rd

Gold's Gym Family Center

Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

site: <http://www.kaleidoscopegemshows.com/>

### GemStreet USA

Start Date: 11/13/2020

End Date: 11/15/2020

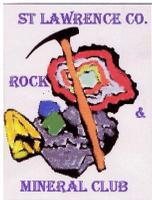
Hours: Fri/Sat 10:00-6:00 Sun 11:00-5:00

5600 McKinley Pkwy

Erie Fairgrounds-Grange Bldg.

Hamburg, NY 14075

Website: <http://www.gemstreetusa.com/>



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## Crystal Fest Fall Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show

Start Date: 11/14/2020

End Date: 11/15/2020

Hours: Sat 10:00-6:00 Sun 10:00-4:00

100 Civic Center Plaza

Nasser Civic Center

Corning, NY

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/Finger-Lakes-Gem-Mineral-Fossil-Club>

## The Metaphysical Corner

### THE PLANETARY GEMSTONES OF THE MOON

Although mostly forgotten today, there are traditional connections between astrology and the mineral kingdom. The birthstones are actually a 20th century invention but they echo an ancient belief that each planet and zodiac sign had gemstones associated with it. Although these listings vary, they follow a simple rule. Each material has a symbolic connection with the planet and therefore could serve as a vehicle for its energy.

### THE SILVER MIRROR

*"The moon is a silver pin head vase, that holds  
the heaven's  
tent-hangings fast."*

~William R. Alger, 19th century Unitarian  
minister and author~

Both the Moon, and many of its spiritual beings, were associated historically with silver. The metal resembles both moonlight and water. While it tarnishes black, it can be restored by polishing, similar to the changing phases of the Moon. All metals were once luxury goods. Their shiny surfaces reminded people of the light emitted by certain celestial

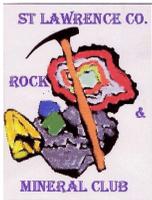
bodies. Because gold does not tarnish, it was associated with the consistent appearance of the Sun. Silver was seen as "semi perfect", representing the cool light of the changeable Moon, while the other planetary metals were "amongst Metals, Silver; amongst stones, Crystall (A), the Silver Marcasite (B), and all those stones that are White, and Green. Also the stone Selenites (C), Lunary, shining from a white body, with a yellow brightness, imitating the motion of the Moon, having in it the figure of the Moon which daily increaseth, or decreaseth as doth the Moon. Also Pearls, which are generated in shels of fishes from the droppings of Water, also the Berill (D).

A = Quartz. B = Arsenopyrite. C = A name used for both gypsum and moonstone historically. D = Beryl but more likely, aquamarine.

(It can be difficult to correctly identify stones in historic texts. Names drift over time and minerals recognized today as completely different things were unknowingly seen as one gemstone, named by their color. For example, topaz once meant peridot, then all translucent yellow stones, and eventually the aluminum silicate we know today.)

## Minutes from the July 8th Zoom Meeting:

The July 8<sup>th</sup> zoom meeting started at 6:00 pm. Seven members attended the meeting including Bill, Joanna, Phoebe, Lisa, Barb, Dennis and Mark. The main topic was field trips. Barb said Gary wanted to go to Rose Rd. We only have 30 minutes so to save time we waived reading of the minutes. Bill talked about the Gardenscape quarry. You can drive right in and up to the spot for collecting. They are going to do another shot which



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might perk interests. Benson Mines personnel are going to bring in a back hoe and rake over the pegmatite pile. Our club has budgeted money to help pay for their efforts. We may have two trips scheduled to go in, one being during normally scheduled show time. Bill also noted that the Peabody Rd. in Gouverneur is under rehab. Jerry did go in and found some good collecting along the road cuts. Bill and Joanna went in and looked around but did not find anything as they were loading the materials out. We talked about T-shirts if we should have them made for 2020. No decisions were made at this time. We talked about in August in lieu of our show to have a two- day event including a picnic and trip to Benson Mines. A motion from Mark to adjourn the meeting all in favor, yes.

## Notes from the Prez



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Hi all; There are a couple of new exciting calendar events to report here. First is the weekend of Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> we're having field trip(s) on Saturday (Benson Mine) followed on Sunday by Picnic and craft classes at the Gouverneur Community Center Pavilion. If the weather is anything like it was during the last collecting trip to Benson Mine July 25<sup>th</sup>, we're in for a real treat. It was perfect! We'll be inviting other clubs to join us

as well as ask for a \$10 donation/person to help defray our club's cost to have the Pegmatite pile raked over. We collected lots of biotite for the kid's mineral kits and some other interesting specimens as well. I saw a nice feldspar crystal, a nice thumbnail molybdonite, and had a report of a cm-size crystal of amethyst associated with biotite. I'm going to comb over the biotite I collected!

There is a good potential of a collecting trip to the Sterling mine in Antwerp once again after a long hiatus! It would be in early to mid-September. Contact me if you're interested so we can make arrangements.



**Field Trip to Benson Mines July 25<sup>th</sup>**

