

ROCK PICKENS

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB Date: December 2017

December

The next club meeting is Saturday, **Dec. 9th** at "The Club" in Canton, NY, 6:00 pm; it's our annual Christmas Party!

Mail checks for annual dues to:
William deLorraine, President
1 Indian Head Trail
Gouverneur, NY 13642

Club Dues:

\$10.00 Single Membership
\$20.00 Family Membership



2018 Shows:

January 26 - February 11, 2018

Every year for about 2.5 weeks in January and February — the rock, gem, mineral and jewelry worlds cosmically align in Tucson. Researchers, gemologists, authors, artists, miners and nearly 4,000 trade companies gather here from every continent to share their treasures, knowledge and expertise with the show's tens (if not hundreds) of thousands of attendees. Earth's gem and mineral riches are on

display at over 40 venues unfurled all over town, for sale in huge circus tents, expo halls, hotels, warehouses, and in the city's fine Convention Center. Every type of polished and rough rock and fossil specimen and every kind of faceted jewel that you can imagine is being peddled everywhere — on blankets on sidewalks or in sophisticated exhibits brought in by the world's finest museums and collectors. All of the shows are free except the Tucson Gem & Mineral Show® held at the Convention Center. Indeed, Tucson hosts the Giant of all Gem Shows, the largest of its kind in the universe.

Venues:

45 gem, mineral, fossil, bead, and jewelry shows

10-11 February 2018

James Campbell Memorial Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show

New York State Museum, Empire Plaza, 222
Madison Ave, Albany, New York 12202

14-15 April 2018: Midland Park, New Jersey

29th Annual North Jersey Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show

Organized by: [North Jersey Mineralogical Society](#)
Midland Park High School (250 Prospect Street)
[Website](#)

28-29 April 2018: Franklin, New Jersey

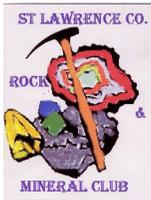
48th Annual New Jersey Earth Science Association Gem & Mineral Show

Organized by: [New Jersey Earth Science Association](#)

New location: Littell Community Center (12 Munsonhurst Road) Indoor / outdoor

Minutes from the November Meeting

The November meeting came to order at 6:45 pm. There were 10 members in attendance. Everyone introduced



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themselves and we had our usual pot luck dinner. Joanna read the minutes from the Oct. meeting. Barb made a motion to accept the minutes and Pheobe 2nd the motion, and it was passed. Elaine Hopper read the Treasurer's report. We had a note from the webmaster, Glen Simonelli that he was not able to log on to the site to add the November newsletter. Bill will call the website to determine what happened and give them Elaine's # for future reference for paying the fees. Chris Sutherland had paid for 3 years in advance. Not sure what is going on but will call. Bill made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and Joanna 2nd.

All were in favor. Bill brought in the new "show signs" with pre-printed directional arrows on them to show to everyone. They will be deployed the day before the show in Canton. This will free up more of our regular signs thereby no need to purchase new ones for a while or use hot glue on them to stick those pesky directional arrows to. Under new business Bill noted that we have a bottle redemption account set up at Griffs in Gouverneur under the name of the St. Law.

Co. Rock & Mineral Club. Also, an anonymous donor will match the amount raised by bottle redemptions! (Very generous individual) Monies so generated will be used to purchase new black lights for the kid's fluorescent mineral hunt and mineral kits. He encouraged others to set up accounts in their own towns such as Canton.

With reference to the current "Hide a rock" craze Bill brought a bunch of sliced drill cores to the meeting. Elaine Hopper and her family had painted some of them ahead of time to show everyone what could be done with them. Flat sides of the drill core discs could be painted just like any other "hide a rock" but this is our club's unique twist on the enterprise. We left a small, white painted spot on the back of each core disc with the

letters "SLCRM". The idea is that the finder might wonder what "SLCRM" represents and eventually come to find out that it is our club's acronym. A neat idea that's been going around the country. Robert Lake won the drawing for petrified wood. Joanna mentioned that the By-laws were distributed a few years ago and that we should vote on them at some point. There were two members that wanted a copy sent to them to read. We went over the date for the upcoming Christmas party and three people indicated their dinner choices. The meeting was adjourned.

The date for the Christmas Party this year at "The Club" in Canton is Dec. 9th at 6:00 pm, upstairs.

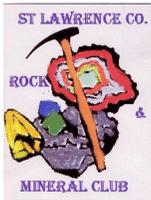
The club voted for no "dinner stipend"; this as a measure to conserve funds for scholarship monies for St. Lawrence U. and Potsdam State as well as for "Kid's kits" and the fluorescent hunt specimens. All were in favor. Two door prizes are going to be drawn at the party.

The choices for dinner at The Club are as follows:

- Monterey Chicken with mashed and Vegetable is \$13.95
- Broiled Haddock with Rice pilaf and Vegetable is \$13.95
- Primavera Red with Side salad and Garlic Bread is \$13.95
- Prime Rib with Baked Potato and Vegetable is \$17.95

Must RSVP if attending with meal choice: [315-287-4652](tel:315-287-4652) or email by Dec. 1st to attend.

wdellie@gmail.com



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Club member Mark Kucera attended Wildacres retreat recently and provided the following report for us. It sounds like a really neat place to go to learn new skills in a beautiful, relaxing setting. Prior to this account by Mark I confess to not having really given the idea of going there much real thought but after reading Mark's report. Here it is:

I spent another great week at Wildacres from 4-10 September. Wildacres is the retreat in the mountains of North Carolina near Asheville where the Eastern Federation offers lapidary and jewelry classes. The classes are introductory and intermediate, you can walk in knowing nothing. The tools, equipment and supplies are provided. There is typically a materials fee depending on the class in addition to the current \$410 tuition fee. Room and board are included with the tuition.

The instructors are great, the class size is low enough that plenty of personal attention is available. The accommodations, food and camaraderie are top notch. This was the second time I attended. I'll likely continue going many more years until I've attended everything they have to offer.

Mark Kucera



Cabbing workshop



One of the housing facilities