

ROCK PICKENS

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB

Date: September/ October, 2020



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

e-mail: 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 31st.

Rock & Mineral Shows

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/>

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->

NY Gem Mineral Fossil and Jewelry Expo - 12/05/2020

Start Date: 12/05/2020

End Date: 12/06/2020

Contact: Kenneth Armstrong

Contact Phone: 3152643082

Venue: Science and Industry Building (SI Hall)

Address: 581 State Fair Boulevard

Science and Industry Building (SI Hall)

Syracuse, NY 13029

Buffalo Geological Society Annual Gem Show - 03/20/2021

Start Date: 03/20/2021

End Date: 03/21/2021

Hours: Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5

Contact: Jerry Bastedo

Contact Phone: (716) 864-2701

Venue: The Fairgrounds in Hamburg - Please use South Park Ave Entrance

Address: 5600 McKinley Pkwy

The Fairgrounds in Hamburg - Please use South Park Ave Entrance

Hamburg, NY 14075

Website: <https://bgsny.org/>



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The Metaphysical Corner

TEARS OF THE SEA

"He who would search for pearls must dive below."

~John Dryden, 17th century English poet~

There is a long tradition of using gems in India to counter balance problems with both the natal chart and transiting planets. Large, flawless stones, usually set in specific metals are prescribed. Each planet has a primary gemstone, if one of sufficient size cannot be found or is too expensive, then an alternative in a similar color is used. The primary stone of Chandra (the Moon) is pearl and its substitutes also appear lunar like moonstone. A pearl is an organic object produced by certain mollusks, most notably the oyster. They form to protect the animal from injury or a foreign body, wrapping it in layers of the minerals calcite and aragonite and the protein conchiolin. Natural pearls are a rare occurrence and were once the most precious jewelry material available, known as the "queen of gems". In the early 1900's techniques were developed in Japan to produce cultured pearls, which made them available to the greater public. Because of their white color, biological purpose, and layers, pearls represent purification, spiritual protection, and the overcoming of obstacles. Since they come from the ocean and are round like the Moon, they are lunar symbols, connected to the emotions, romance, and traits culturally associated with the feminine-like intuition. Pearls are also said to have a calming effect, just like they help the oyster with an irritant, or are used to reveal and pacify the root of a personal wound.

Picnic and class at the pavilion in Gouverneur, August 23rd.



Notes From the President:

On Sat., Aug. 22nd our club journeyed to Benson Mines for some fun collecting. Below is a photo (1) of a unique pyritohedron collected by Sarah Bancroft. Afterwards those who wanted to stopped in at the Gouverneur Museum to see the mineral display there which includes Dave Millis' exhibit of a mica castle and other of his unique and beautiful mica creations (Photos 5,6). On Sunday we hosted a picnic at the Gouverneur Community Center. Following that we enjoyed wire wrapping classes and for kids: painting rocks. Thank you, Dave, for



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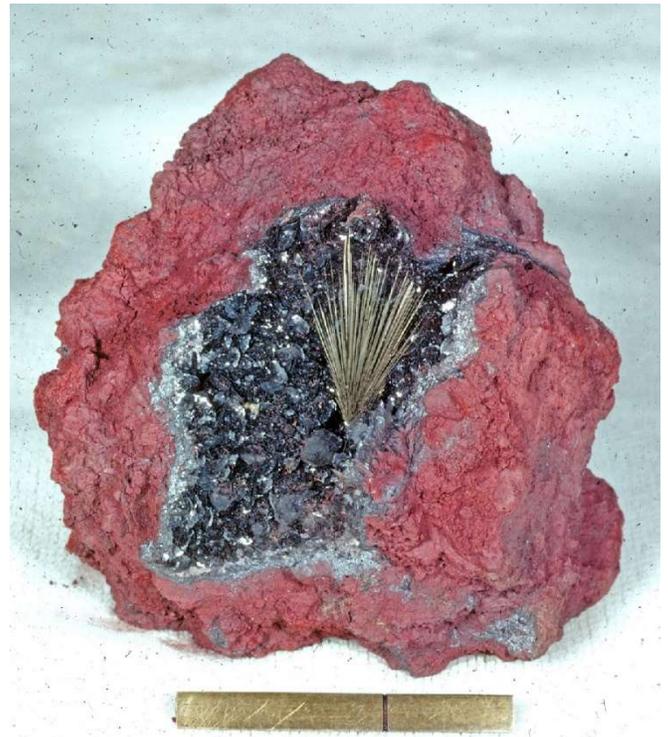
Date: September/ October, 2020

doing this! Loved the mica in a picture frame!
It was a fun afternoon with lots of door prizes
donated by Jerry Curcio and Bill deLorraine.



1). Specimens from Benson Mine showing pyritohedron; crystal of molybdenite bottom.

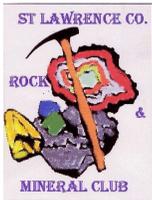
Our club is pleased to welcome many new members: Charles & Tracey Crisclorie and their daughters Tonia and Catie Love; Steven and Nancy Fowler and their children Leah, Laura, Josh, and Joan; Grace Spencer, Cyndy Bechard, Dave Kords and David Fox.



2). Millerite from the Sterling Mine, Antwerp, NY. We were all looking for specimens like this one!



3). 9-5-2020. Collecting at Bower Powers, Pierrepont, NY.



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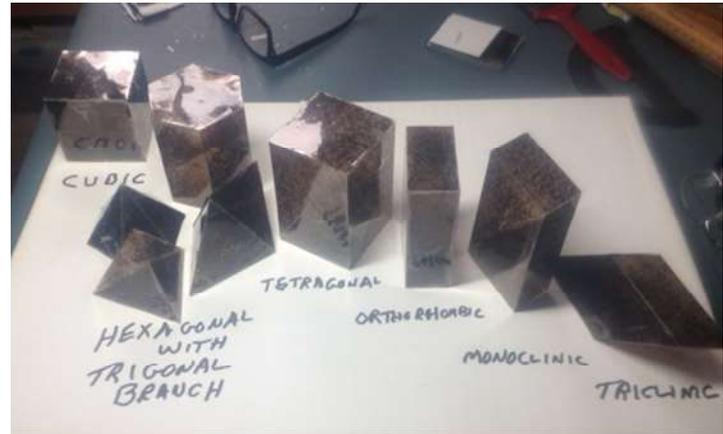
4). 9-5-2020. Field trip participants at the Balmat No. 4 Mine main gate.



5). Some of the mica creations by Dave Millis on display at the Gouverneur Museum.

Our club joined up with members of the Keene NH club over the Labor Day weekend led by an old mining engineering colleague of mine at the Balmat zinc mine, John Bazz-Dresch. We visited the Bower Powers property (3), collected at Benson Mine (1), Star Lake, took a look at a "real mine" at Titan's Empire State #4 mine, Balmat (4), went to the long-closed Sterling mine, Antwerp (2), and also to Rose Road in

Pitcairn. Gouverneur Minerals Co. most graciously replenished the piles of blue calcite at their Valentine mine, Harrisville so we had a great time collecting there as well.



6). Crystal system models created by Dave Millis from mica collected at Benson Mine, Star Lake.

Clubmember Jerry Curcio took us to Talcville where we were able to collect Hexagonite and -- bonus of the day for some of us -- was the sighting of a Bald Eagle! It was my first sighting of this "Big Bird" up here in the North Country and it was a thrill indeed. Jerry brought samples of chrome tremolite which he broke up and distributed to a whole lot of anxious and very grateful collectors. Thanks so much Jerry!

Not a whole lot else new to report at this time.

With respect to Fig. (6) above, Dave Millis advises that conditions permitting (i.e. Covid safe) he'll be teaching classes on how to fabricate his ingenious mica models of the crystal systems. Lookin' forward to it Dave! The only other newsworthy item I have at this printing is we now have set up a PayPal account whereby the club is able now to accept dues and other payments via that mechanism. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!