



# UPCOMING SHOWS

## February 25 - 26

13th Annual James Campbell Memorial Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show and Sale  
The New York State Academy of Mineralogy and Capital District Mineral Club  
New York State Museum - Empire State Plaza  
Madison Avenue, Albany, NY  
For more info call (518) 486-2011

## March 25 - 26

The Island Rock Hounds, Inc.  
34th Annual Show of Gems, Minerals and Fossils  
Westbury High School - Post Road & Jericho Turnpike  
Old Westbury, NY  
For more info call (631) 959-3960  
(Discount coupon at [Suffolkgem.com](http://Suffolkgem.com) - Upcoming shows)

## April 8 - 9

Village of Freeport - Recreation & Parks Dept.  
31st Annual Gem & Mineral Show  
Freeport Recreation Center - 130 East Merrick Rd.  
Freeport, LI, NY  
For more info call (516) 781-8410  
(Discount coupon at [Suffolkgem.com](http://Suffolkgem.com) - Upcoming shows)

[www.suffolkgem.com](http://www.suffolkgem.com)

P. O. Box 302  
Bohemia, L.I., NY  
11716



*To promote cultural, educational, and scientific interest in mineralogy, and develop member's skills in lapidary arts and jewelry crafts*

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 0 6

# THE CONGLOMERATE

*The Monthly Newsletter of the Suffolk Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.*

## CLUB OFFICERS

President – Martin Besso	631-666-8023	Recording Sec’y. – Tom Wines	631-472-4395
Vice President - Kerry Dicker	631-277-0994	Director - Elaine Casani	631-567-3342
Treasurer - Roberta Besso	631-666-8023	Director – Dorothy Scott	631-281-8555
Corres. Sec’y. – Judi Wines	631-472-4395	Director – Charles Runko	(cell) 631-988-0789

The Conglomerate: *Editor* – Judi Wines *Co-Editor* – Martin Besso

Webmaster – Suffolkgem.com: Tom Wines

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### This Meeting – February 27<sup>th</sup>

- Marty Besso, Charlie Runko, and Bob Milius will speak on Fluorescents
- We will also show the video “Jewel of the Desert” . In November 1974, two young men went exploring in the hills outside Benson. What they found would become one of the greatest natural discoveries in the history of Arizona. This is the story of how their care and dedication to preserving this extraordinary underground world led to the creation of one of the most unique state parks in America: Kartchner Caverns, The Jewel of the Desert.
- The Club officers for 2006 will be installed

### Last Meeting

- Elections were held for the slate of Club Officers for 2006
- There was a hands-on demonstration on wire wrapping a cabochon

### On Leaving...

As I leave the presidency of our Club, I have a few parting thoughts.

Firstly, any club is only as good as its members.

Secondly, I would urge our older members to keep up their love of their hobby. Whether minerals, fossils, or jewelry making, keep learning and more importantly, teach the newer members.

Thirdly, new members should ask questions, read books, learn from others.

Fourthly, all members should get involved as it is your club. Volunteer for hands-on demonstrations and/or presentations, take trips, go on digs. Moreover, tell your leadership what you want.

I want to thank you all for the privilege of being your President for the past three years, but I could not have done it alone. I want to sincerely thank my fellow club

officers and the club directors for all their hard work and support.

In closing, I want to offer my support to your new president, Marty Besso, his fellow officers and directors and wish them all the best in the coming year.

Tom Wines,  
President

### In Remembrance

- Elaine Casani’s father, John Petrowski , on Christmas Day at the age of 90.
- Joanne Englehardt’s mother, Jennie Iseldyke, in January at the age of 103.

### It’s that time of the year...

Dues are to be paid by the end of February. Save \$.39 by handing your money in to Roberta at this month’s meeting. A renewal application is included in the newsletter. Individual membership is \$10 and family is \$15.

We will be distributing a list of the 2006 club membership in the near future. If you **DO NOT** want your telephone and/or e-mail address included, please indicate on the membership renewal form.

### Club Sweatshirts

We were able to obtain prices for embroidered “logo” sweatshirts. They range from \$25.00 to \$32.00 depending on type (hooded, zippered, etc.). Since the Club will not be ordering in bulk, members will have to complete an order form with payment (check or cash) **before** the sweatshirts are ordered. We will submit all orders to the vendor on Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, after the Club membership meeting. We are required to order a minimum of six sweatshirts. For those of you who DO NOT order now, you will have to wait until another six are ordered. Order forms will be available at the February meeting.

## Seats Still Available - Bus Trip to Albany

If you are still interested in the one-day bus trip to the Capital District Mineral Club gem show on **Saturday, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>**, **you must call Gene Genova** (President - Long Island Mineral and Geological Society) at (631) 929-3538 for additional information and reservations.

## Proposed Change in By-laws

The following changes were voted on at the January 9<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting, included in January's newsletter, and discussed and tabled (as required) at the January meeting. The proposed changes will be voted on at the February 27<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

### Proposed Change #1

*Dissolve the positions of Corresponding Secretary and Recording Secretary* (ARTICLE VI – BOARD OF OFFICERS, Section 9 –Duties of Officers, (c) – Recording Secretary & (e) Corresponding Secretary) *and institute a new position of Secretary* that will encompass the former duties of the Corresponding and the Recording Secretaries. .

### Proposed Change #2

*Establish an additional Director position from three to four* (ARTICLE VI – BOARD OF OFFICERS, Section 2 (b) – Other Officers Roster). This will maintain the number of board positions to eight to further assure a quorum at executive meetings.

### Proposed Change #3

*Revise the list of Executive Officers* (ARTICLE VI BOARD OF OFFICERS, Section 2 (a). Delete Recording and Corresponding Secretaries and replace with Secretary.

## Science Open Nights



SUNY-SB holds free lectures on such topics as Astronomy, Physics, Ecology, Evolution, and Geology. Sessions are generally held each Friday evening during the month at the Earth and Space Sciences Building starting at 7:30 pm.

Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup> is Geology Night. Prof. Donald J. Weidner (SUNY) will speak on “Between a Rock and a Hard Place” that might be of interest to Club members.

Please see <http://pbisotopes.ess.sunysb.edu/openight/> for full details for this and other upcoming sessions.

**SUFFOLK GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.**  
P.O. BOX 302, BOHEMIA, NY 11716

## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL - One year beginning February 2006**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Individual membership.....\$10/year**  
*(Individual membership refers to anyone 18 or older.)*

\_\_\_\_\_ **Family membership.....\$15/year**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Check here ? if you **DO NOT** want your phone and/or E-mail on the distribution list of 2006 members