



# UPCOMING SHOWS

**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)

**August 11 - 13**

East Coast Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show  
Better Living Center at the Eastern States Exposition  
1305 Memorial Drive,  
West Springfield, MA 01089

[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*

MARCH 2006

# THE CONGLOMERATE

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

## CLUB OFFICERS

President – Martin Besso	631-666-8023	Director - Elaine Casani	631-567-3342
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The Conglomerate: *Editor* – Judi Wines *Co-Editor* – Martin Besso

Webmaster – Suffolkgem.com: Tom Wines

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## What Are You Waiting For?

Some members have yet to pay their dues for 2006. Check the label on this newsletter - if you have a “05”, we have NOT received your dues. This will be your last newsletter unless we receive your check. If you are unable to make the meetings, send it to SG&MC, Box 302, Bohemia, NY 11716 ASAP.

***Unpaid members will be charged \$10.00 for materials at the March meeting.***

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 that was included in prior newsletters.

### This Meeting – March 20<sup>th</sup>

Elaine Casani and Marty Besso will conduct a hands-on demonstration of wire wrapping a heart shaped stone. Please bring your tools and a 12” ruler. The cost of materials is free to **PAID** members for others the cost is \$10.00. Additional materials are \$10.00 each.

### Last Meeting

- Marty Besso, Charlie Runko, and Bob Milius spoke on and displayed Fluorescents.
- The video “Jewel of the Desert” was shown.
- The Club officers for 2006 were installed.
- Changes in the by-laws were passed.

### Book Donation

The Stenson Family has donated many rock, mineral, fossil, and geology books to the Club. These will be raffled off at the monthly membership meetings. Remember to wear your Club shirt in order to get two chances to win.

### Club Sweatshirts

The order was placed for twelve sweatshirts, but it is uncertain if they will be available for the March meeting.

### Upcoming Caravan Trip

Lower Devonian Fossils  
Schoharie, NY  
Saturday, April 29, 2006  
Sponsored by The New York Paleontological Society

The Field Trip Coordinator will be Chris Marotta and a field guide will be available for those attending.

The site, located approximately 170 miles from New York City, is loaded with fossils with a nearly every phyla represented. Some of the more notable items found are the *Hindia* sp. Sponges that look like golf balls and *Platycerus* gastropods that come in a wide variety of morphologies. Crinoid “hold fasts” are also common in several layers. This site has an enormous variety of Brachiopods and some trilobites have been found. Recently, vertebrate (fish) coprolites have also

**Upcoming Caravan Trip (Cont.)**

been reported. The limestone formations found at this site are Early Devonian, ranging around 400 million years.

**REGISTRATION:** Membership in the NYPS is required for attendance. New memberships can be accepted beforehand or at the site but must be submitted before any work can start. Memberships are \$15.00 individual or \$20.00 family. Membership requests can also be mailed to: New York Paleontological Society, P.O.Box 287, Planetarium Station, 127 West 83<sup>rd</sup> St., New York, NY 10024. To register, please email Chris Marotta at : [dmarotta@suffolk.lib.ny.us](mailto:dmarotta@suffolk.lib.ny.us) or call (631) 744-4408.

**TRAVEL:** Directions will be emailed or given to people who register for this trip. We will try to match up those wanting carpools with willing drivers as available. We will gather at the site between 11:00 am and 11:15am.

**TOOLS:** Hammers and chisels. Geology hammers are fine. Since the rock is liable to chip, GOGGLES OR SAFETY GLASSES ARE REQUIRED. STURDY ANKLE HIGH BOOTS OR SHOES ARE ALSO RECOMMENDED. You will need small boxes or packaging (old newspaper) for some of your better finds and boxes or buckets for bulk slabs.

**CLOTHING:** It is early in the year and we will be just north of the Catskill Mountains so cooler weather is possible. Dress in layers with sweaters or light coats. A sun hat and sun block might also be good if the weather is warm and sunny. If the weather is threatening, don't forget your rain gear. You may want to bring insect spray to protect against the possibility of ticks. Repellents with a DEET content of 50% or better are most effective.

**FOOD:** Since it may be hot, bring along water and beverages. Please bring a bag lunch for a picnic near the Old Stone Fort. There is also food available in town.

**NOTE:** No restroom at site, and rest room at Old Stone Fort is not opened yet. In the past, members have found restrooms in town.

**WAIVER:** Each individual wishing to go must sign a waiver form.



**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.

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

**Brain Teasers**

<b>HOMÉ</b>	<b>D The I Hospital A L</b>
<b>BACK CK K</b>	<b>Mutiny CC</b>
<b>LOOSE LOOSE LOOSE</b>	<b>WORD YYY</b>
<b>NE1410S</b>	<b>PETS A</b>
<b>dothepe</b>	<b>S P L I T</b>

Answers at the March membership meeting.

