

UPCOMING SHOWS



The Island Rock Hounds, Inc.

32nd Annual Show of Gems, Minerals & Fossils

April 17th and 18th

Westbury High School - Post Road & Jericho Turnpike
Old Westbury, NY

Celinka Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show

June 5th and 6th

Stony Brook University – Student Activity Center
Stony Brook, NY

For info: 631-567-3342

The Long Island Mineral & Geological Society, Inc.

23rd Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show

July 24th and 25th

Mattituck High School – Main Road
Mattituck, NY

Monthly Club meetings held at the Bay Shore-Brightwaters Library, Montauk Highway, Bay Shore starting at 8:00pm

www.suffolkgem.com

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



APRIL 2004

THE CONGLOMERATE

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

CLUB OFFICERS

President – Thomas Wines
Vice President - Kerry Dicker
Treasurer - Roberta Besso
Corres. Sec'y. – Candy Miller
Recording Sec'y. – Judi Wines

631-472-4395
631-277-0994
631-666-8023
631-928-5219
631-472-4395

Director - Elaine Casani
Director – Dorothy Scott
Director - Doreen Wilson
Club Liaison – Charles Runko

631-567-3342
631-281-8555
631-567-4324
631-234-3959

The Conglomerate:

Editor – Judi Wines

Co-Editor – Marty Besso

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From the President's Desk

Are you bored? This month's newsletter contains many exciting activities for you to participate in - from learning about diamonds, to creating beautiful diachronic glass pieces, or going on a great bus trip to a huge gem show and sale. How about being able to dig for fossils with a world famous paleontologist or mining for garnets?

Your Club is striving to give its members a broad menu of activities during the year. By your active participation and feedback, we learn where to focus our future efforts.

Come on...Are you bored? Join in.

Next Meeting – April 19th

A special thanks to Corresponding Club Secretary **Candi Miller** for arranging for **Dorothy DiBenedeto** to speak on diamonds, the birthstone of April, and to answer all your questions on this sparkling subject. She will focus her talk on the 4Cs of diamonds.



Dorothy has been in the jewelry trade for over twenty years. She started in a mall store, Caroll Jewelers, where Dorothy became very interested in diamonds, as they have always fascinated her.

So when Dorothy realized how well she could work with people and jewelry, she took a course in GIA. Dorothy is now GIA certified and is more fascinated than ever about diamonds. She has owned a jewelry store in Sayville for

fifteen years and now manages Brown Jewelers in Bay Shore.

She is looking forward to meeting with us on April 19th.

As always, refreshments will be served.

At the Prior Meeting

Frank Roever spoke on the many aspects of gem and mineral collecting. The Club would like to thank Frank for his generous donation of specimens and several books to the Club's library.

A complete listing of books and other related material currently in the Club's possession will be available at the April meeting. Please contact Vice President Kerry Dicker if you are interested in borrowing from the Club's library.

Dichroic Glass

Jane Irvine teaches a "Dichroic Glass" class at our May 15th meeting.

But, what is "Dichroic Glass"? Derived from technology resulting from the space program, "Dichroic Glass" jewelry is made by fusing pieces of glass containing special coatings. This creates a magical display of color that actually changes depending upon the angle from which it is viewed. These art-glass creations are made into very pricey, one-of-a-kind pieces.

And now you have an opportunity to create one yourself. There will be examples of diachronic glass at the April meeting.

The cost for this class is \$12.00. **To participate in this unique session, you will need to sign-up at the April 19th meeting.**

Club Raffle



The Club has acquired a used grinder-cutter machine (estimate value \$500 – new). Raffle tickets can be purchased for \$5 each from Marty Besso. The drawing will be at our June 21st meeting.

Bulk Specimens

Member, Paul Engelhardt, is looking into the possibility of purchases of mineral specimens in bulk and then passing the savings along to members. If you are interested in this proposal, please call Paul at 631-589-0742 and tell him what you would be interested in the Club purchasing.

Franklin, NJ Bus Trip

Saturday, April 24, 2004



This is a “not to be missed” show and sale. One building is chock full of vendors as well as the adjoining field. Gems, jewelry, minerals, and fossils – this is the show where you will find that special treasure at a bargain price. Historically, this trip has been one the years’ highlights. Also, attendees will have an opportunity to participate in a tour of the Sterling Hill Museum to be given at 10:30am at a cost of \$8.50/adult. While there will be no mining allowed, but specimens will be given out on the tour.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the April meeting. Since this is a joint trip with the other Long Island clubs, we are limited to 16 seats. The cost for Club members is \$10.

Contact Roberta Besso at 631-666-8023 for more information and/or sign up.

Red Hill, PA

Saturday and Sunday, May 1 & 2, 2004

Ted Daeschler, the scientist who recently found the oldest tetrapod in North America at "Red Hill", will be leading a tour of this site. Thanks to **Chris Marotta** our Club will be able to participate in this exciting activity to collect Devonian fish and plant fossils. We will be with another group, The Maryland Geological Society.

This is an active research site maintained and protected by the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Science. And they must inspect every find for scientifically important bones (basically, anything from an unknown tetrapod or rare fish). We can keep the stuff that is not needed for their study. This is a rare opportunity for paleo-people. Additionally, we will be shown an exhibit of some of these world famous fossils.

After the dig, we are having a picnic at a place that also has a fossil site. Chris is working on lining up places for a possible second day. There is no charge for Red Hill or the picnic but we are asking for volunteers to bring food. It is required (for insurance purposes) that everyone on site be a NYPS member but that is simply signing up and paying a \$15 fee (\$20 for family). This can be done on site. Red Hill is mountainous and near a highway so they do not allow children under 10.

Ted and Red Hill were recently on a NOVA episode *The Missing Link*. At the April Club meeting, Chris will show an excerpt from this program.

Contact Tom Wines at 631-472-4395 for more information and/or sign up.

Garnet Dig - May 22nd

Marty Besso is looking for members to join him on this trip sponsored by the Capital District Mineral Club to Roxbury, CT to collect garnets in and out of matrix and staurolites. Good collecting is almost guaranteed. Equipment needed includes hammer (hand and sledge), chisel, eye protection, gloves, screen, and shovel. Also, tick protection is recommended.

Garnet Dig (Cont.)

Anyone interested should contact Marty at 631-666-8023. He intends to leave at 8:30am from the parking lot on Ext. 53 of the Long Island Expressway.

Avery Point, CT - Bus Trip

A noted marine biologist has offered to give a tour at Avery Point, part of the University of Connecticut on May 22. Enjoy learning about the geology of Long Island Sound and other interesting earth science disciplines. Also included is a visit to the Pequot Museum and a drop off at the Mohegan Sun Casino.

Contact Cheryl Neary at 631-475-5689 or Marty Besso at 631-666-8923 for more information and/or sign up.

Eastern Federation (EFMLS) and American Federation (AFMS) present

The Big 2004 Show for All America

"The Splendor of Quartz"

State Fairgrounds, Syracuse, NY

☆ Make this your one stop to see/buy what's hot and/or buy really cool jewelry, minerals, gems, fossils, etc. ☆ 66 hand-selected dealers including 12 wholesale from U.S. and Canada ☆ 3/4 mile of tables of goodies ☆ For kids: mineral sluice, operating ore trains, geode splitting and more ☆ Meet SUE, the famous T-Rex from out West ☆ Awe minerals from 2 1/2 miles beneath the Atlantic ☆ Herkimers to die for ☆ Aiming for 100 stunning educational exhibits ☆ Demonstrators ☆ Lectures ☆ Door prizes ☆ Food ☆ Wheelchair accessible ☆ Air conditioned

Fri./Sat., July 9 & 10 —10am to 6pm

SUMMER WORKSHOP!

from Esther Dims, Functioning Committee Chair



Have you sent in your application for the Wildacres Workshop yet? We still have a few more spaces, so don't delay. When you submit your application be sure to note your second and third choices of classes as several are filling up fast.

You might want to try your hand at beading, chain making, curving cabochons, faceting, playing with micro-minerals or learning about fluorescents. Or you might want to try PMC (precious metal clay).

You will find it really fun working with the silver clay. After you have fashioned your items they will be fired in a kiln which turns them to fine silver. They can then be treated as silver and can be sawed, filed, drilled, soldered and polished the same as regular silver. It's a great class for anyone who wants to make 'one of a kind' jewelry.

We have excellent, experienced Instructors who have the patience to guide you through the steps of whatever class you choose. We know from past years that you will have a great learning experience! Just come to the workshop and try them out. We're sure you will want to return for more, for this is a very 'magical' place.

Here are the classes being offered in both sessions:

June 26 - July 2

2-day Classes:

Cabochons
Chainmaking Basic
Chainmaking Intermediate
Prerequisite: Basic
Fluorescents
Mineral ID
Precious Metal Clay
Wirecraft Basic
Soapstone Carving

4-day Classes: (you only take 1)

Faceting
Certified Judging
Micromounting & Photomicrography
Silversmithing

Guest speaker for the session is Bob Jones, Sr. Editor of Rock & Gem Magazine.

September 20-26

2-day Classes

Cabochons
Wirecraft Basic
Soapstone Carving or Forging

4-day Classes:

Faceting
Certified Judging
Micromounting & Photomicrography
Silversmithing
Wax Modeling and Casting

Guest speaker for this session is Dr. Steve Chamberlain of Syracuse University.

Information for members of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary Societies

EFMLS NEWS

