

# UPCOMING SHOWS

And Events - 2018 -2019

September 15 & 16 LI Fair – Old Bethpage Restoration Village  
September 22 & 23 (Island Rock Hounds Booth)

Nov. 10-11 New York City Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show  
10:00-5:00 The Watson Hotel, 440 W57th St., NYC

Dec. 1-2 Suffolk Gem & Mineral Club Annual SHow  
10:00-5:00 Our Lady of Mount Carmel, North Ocean Ave.Patchogue

March Island Rock Hounds Annual Show  
Old Bethpage Restoration Village

## EFMLS Convention & Show

The 2019 (68th) EFMLS Convention will be held in Monroe, New York, hosted by the Orange County Mineral Society. The dates for the convention and show will be Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup> to Sunday, June 2nd . .

*For other Gem and Mineral shows:* <http://www.amfed.org/EFMLS/calendar.htm>

[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*

September 2018

# THE CONGLOMERATE

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

Monthly Club meetings held at the Bay Shore-Brightwaters Library, Montauk Highway, Brightwaters starting at 7:00pm.

Refreshments served at 7:00 pm.

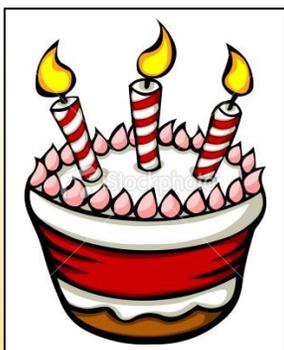
## OFFICERS

*The Conglomerate Editor - Cheryl Neary  
Club Webmaster - Kerry Dicker*

President –	Cheryl Neary	516.449.5341 cell	Director - Elaine Casani	631-567-3342
Vice President –	Kerry Dicker	631-277-0994	Director - Lucy Jackson	631- 289-2328
Treasurer -	Roberta Besso	631-666-8023	Director - John King	631-775-7035
Asst. treasure	Joe LaBarca	631-242-5290	Director –Debbie Winston	516-238-8370
Secretary –	Rebecca LaBarca	516-768-4438	Director –Pat Seostrom	631.654.0746
Liaison –	Cheryl Neary	516.449.5341 cell	Director – Michael Jung	631.698.3018

**Cell phones are to be turned off during all Club meetings.**

**More importantly, there should be no disturbances during any guest presentations.**



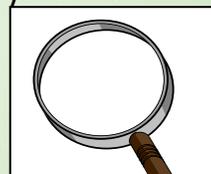
Happy Birthday Wishes!  
May Your Year Be Filled  
with Hugs & Kisses!

### September

*Josephine Buttacy  
Caryn Bosak  
Barbara Bruce  
Tom Dicker  
Paul Engelhardt  
Johanna Engelhardt  
Kathy Guerreri  
Elizabeth Klecak  
Joseph Kuri  
Jesssica Miller  
Marlene Rust  
Debbie Winston*

### UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS: 2018 - 2019

*September 17 - "What Am I?"  
October 15-  
November 19 -  
December 10 - Note date is week prior to our  
Regular meeting date!  
Annual Chinese Auction*



### Message from the Prez:

This year we have an exciting line-up of activities planned for our members! So please plan on attending the meetings!

It is also that time of the year that we need to start thinking about VOLUNTEERING for the nominating committee and for the annual show!

Just as a side note – my siblings always called me the General because I supposedly bossed them around (of course, it might have seemed like that to them because I was the oldest sister, but in my defense I could not perform my chores if they did not do theirs first so...) and my daughters have informed me that I like to VOLUNTOLD people! So, you might like to volunteer before I do it for you!

Keep rockin' on!

Cheryl Neary  
Ciervo.neary@gmail.com



## Let the Adventures Begin!

### Road Trip – Upper Peninsula, Michigan Copper Country

When: First two weekends in August 2019

Where: Ishpeming  
Munising

### September Birthstone:

#### Please visit:

<https://www.wixonjewelers.com/education/gemstones/birthstones/>

**Sapphire**, the birthstone of September, is most desired in its pure, rich blue color but is present in almost every color including pink, yellow and green. In the Middle Ages the gem was believed to protect those close to you from harm and also represented loyalty and trust.

When hearing the word Sapphire many people immediately envision a stunning violet-blue gemstone because the word “Sapphire” is Greek for blue. For centuries, the Sapphire has been referred to as the ultimate blue gemstone. Since Ancient times the Blue Sapphire represented a promise of honesty, loyalty, purity and trust. To keep with this tradition Sapphires are one of the most popular engagement gemstones today.

Sapphire is found in many parts of the world, but the most prized Sapphires are from Myanmar (Burma), Kashmir and Sri Lanka. Sapphires with highly saturated violet-blue color and “velvety” or “sleepy” transparency are more rare. The purer the blue of the Sapphire, the greater the price. However, many people find that the darker hues of Sapphire can be just as appealing.

Sapphires are not only blue, they come in almost every color of the rainbow: pink, yellow, orange, peach, and violet colors. The most sought-after color fancy Sapphire is the rare and beautiful Padparadscha: a pink-orange corundum with a distinctive salmon color reminiscent of a tropical sunset. These ultra-rare, ultra-expensive stones are among the most coveted gems in the world.

#### Nominating Committee:

We need volunteers to be on the nominating committee. Our elections are in January but we need a slate to be posted within the next month. The committee requires a minimum of four people. One committee member is appointed by the President as chairperson; with three from the general membership

As a reminder, this is **your** club. Please consider helping the club if you are asked to serve on the committee!

Also, the same applies if you are asked to be on the Board!



## Outside The Box

### Synopsis of Last Few Month's Meeting:

Unfortunatly I was unable to attend the “Bragging Rights” but I heard there was some great things to brag about!

Thanks to all participants and to the winners (who will be announced next bulletin)

#### What is a Member in Good Standing?

One that:

- Attends (4) Meetings
- Contributes Time to Club Show or the Celinka Show-at the Club Table

(If you are unable to attend the show, there is other show activities you can volunteer for- please see Elaine or Cheryl!)

#### Participates in Club Fundraisers

Remember-this is your club!

This club needs you to participate, in order for the club to grow-

If you have any suggestions for a program, please speak to one of the Board members listed above. If you have an idea for a field trip, please speak to a Board member as well!

Ask what else you can do!

#### If you know of any child interested in joining a Pebbles Pup Club

Please have them contact either:

Paula Rodgruez at [psalata77@optonline.net](mailto:psalata77@optonline.net)

Robin Wiley at [rcwiley@optonline.net](mailto:rcwiley@optonline.net)

Cheryl Neary at [ciervo.neary@gmail.com](mailto:ciervo.neary@gmail.com)

# Let the Adventures Begin!

In the Spring of 2019, Lucy (Jackson) and I will be presenting a slide show of our Alaska Adventure. Due to time constraints for the presentation, it is not possible to detail some of the highlights of our trip. So for the next few months Let the Adventures Begin will be highlighting some of the items that we will be presenting.

Alaska today is known for its wilderness and scenic parks. Today 60% of the land is national park.

During the time period when Russian traders inhabited the land in the mid-1700's, the Alaska Natives (Eskimo, Indian and Aleut people) were still considered the primary landowners. In 1867, Russia sold Alaska to the United States government, resulting in the government owning 375 million acres of the Alaskan Territory. Can you visualize the size of 375 million acres? For those of you good with geography, the 375 million acres is about one-fifth of the size of the continental U.S.

In 1959, Alaska became our 49<sup>th</sup> State. The state government was granted 28% ownership of its entire area. Today the federal government is the largest landowner – with 60% of the total area or 222 million acres of either national parks, wildlife refuges, national forests, military reservations and the North Slope National Petroleum Reserve.

Native lands are private lands due to the Alaska Native Claims settlement Act passed in 1971 by Congress. This Act mandated the creation of regional and village Native corporations for the disbursements of the 44 million acres and payment of \$1,000,000,000.00 (one billion). Thirteen regional corporations were created; twelve shared in the selection of 16 million acres with the thirteenth corporation located in Seattle receiving only a cash settlement. 224 village corporations, of 25 or more residents, shared 26 million acres. The remaining acres, which include historical sites and existing native-owned lands, went into a land pool to provide land to small villages of less than 25 people. Other Private Land Land in private ownership (other than Native land) comprises less than one percent of the total land in Alaska. Much of the best land for development around Alaska's communities is, or will be, privately owned. Private land development meets people's needs by providing places to live, work, shop and recreate. It also provides a tax base for cities and communities to help support public services.

The largest state park in America is the 1.6 million acres of land known as Wood-Tikchik State Park. Anchorage is the only large American city with a 500,000 acre park as one of its boundaries the Chugach State Park.

It is no wonder that Alaska has the largest state park system in America.

Created in 1910 to preserve Tlingit and early Russian history, the **Sitka National Historical Park** was the first national park established in Alaska. **Denali National Park** was created in 1917, followed by Katmai in 1918, Glacier Bay in 1925, and the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park in 1976. In 1980, the Alaska Lands Act established ten new parks and expanded three others, for a total of 15 park units. This act more than doubled the size of the National Park System. The parks today include striking geological diversity from the tidewater glaciers of Southeast's Glacier Bay to Katmai's Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes to the sand dunes of the Kobuk Valley.

Unlike Lucy and I who ventured to Alaska to enjoy its scenic wilderness, many arrived in Alaska due to the lure of one of its natural resources - Gold! And later- Black Gold! More to follow in the next few bulletins!!!

**Side trip here:** during one of my geology classes,(seem not soooo long ago!) one of my male colleagues ventured to inform the females in the class that we (females) could make a great deal of money working on the pipeline. I was surprised to learn that he was referring to the women who worked the men who worked the pipeline! As Lucy and I learned while on a few of our excursions, the number of bordellos was so ridiculously high that legislation was put in place for ever bordello a church was required to be built. In Skagway we learned that today there is approximately 50 churches in the tiny community! (and today the bordellos are outlawed)

# Michigan Man Discovers Glowing, Florescent Rocks Called "Yooperlites"

Mining, News, Rocks, USA 7:49 PM

(Submitted by Elizabeth Weismann)



A Michigan man who discovered a new rock type uses a black light to search for the distinctive glowing rocks along the beaches of Lake Superior.  
FACEBOOK/YOOPERLITES

Erik Rintamaki was searching for rocks on a Michigan beach last summer when he made what he calls a "mind blowing" discovery. Resting among the thousands of pebbles covering the Lake Superior beach, Rintamaki saw a glowing rock.

The gem and mineral dealer told CBS News he often goes rock hunting. But on this particular June night, he found a rock unlike any other — a florescent orb that he later named "Yooperlite." Like lava glowing through cracks in the earth, a glowing light seeped out of the lines in the small rock.

Rintamaki knew this couldn't be the only Yooperlite out there, but he couldn't find any information about glowing rocks online. He knows many people in the gem and mineral field, but everyone he asked had no clue what these mysterious rocks were.

Rinktamaki went back to the beach night after night, carrying a black light which helped illuminated the glowing rocks. "I was blown away," he said. "It's insane how many are on the beaches up here." He started collecting Yooperlites by the bagful and sold them online. Michigan State University messaged Rinktamaki with an interest in buying some of the rocks to study.

Michigan State, along with the University of Saskatchewan, researched the Yooperlites for months. The universities determined that Rintamaki did, indeed, discover a new type of rock. He says other people may have spotted these gems before, but he was the first person to get Yooperlites verified — making him the self-proclaimed "Christopher Columbus of rocks."

Rintamaki said Michigan State gave the rocks a scientific name: syenite clasts containing fluorescent sodalite.

The name he gave them — Yooperlites — comes from the nickname "Yoopers," which refers to people who live in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, according to Mineral News, a newsletter for mineral collectors that reported on Rintamaki's discovery.

When his discovery was verified and made public in May 2018, Rintamaki says life as he knew it changed. "I've had thousands of messages and I can't get to them all," he told CBS News. He now gives Yooperlite tours on the beaches along Lake Superior.

"I've never had anyone not find stones," Rintamaki said of his tour groups. He takes groups out near dusk and they use black lights to search for Yooperlites for about four hours, he says. He also still sells Yooperlites and bought a machine that can buff them into perfect, smooth orbs.

When he's not with a tour group, he finds himself looking for Yooperlites alone all night long. "I work the night shift at a casino, so when I get out of work at 2 a.m., I get to the beach ... I search until the sun comes up," he said.

Rintamaki's passion has made him a local celebrity. He says his tours are booked solid through 2019 and the videos of his rock hunting have gone viral.

<http://www.geologyin.com/2018/09/michigan-man-discovers-glowing.html#o1GQzS2kojYxF8os.99> Follow us: @GeologyTime on Twitter

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## Trivia Corner:

WALES boasts a village called

**Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlllantysiliogogoch** (58 letters), which in English means "Saint Mary's Church in the hollow of white hazel near a rapid whirlpool and the Church of Saint Tysilio near the red cave." The locals call it Llanfairpwll (pronounced thlan vire puth).

OGO - This comes from the word "ogof" meaning "cave" in Welsh. The village is located on the island of Anglesey. The name was invented in the late 1800s to make the village famous for having the railway station with the longest name.

## DEC Warns Long Island and Hudson Valley Residents to Be Wary of Offers of Free 'Clean Fill'

### DEC Urges Caution to Avoid Being Victimized by Illegal Solid Waste Dumping

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) today urged Long Island and Hudson Valley residents to use caution when offered free fill material for use to level or grade properties. In July, the DEC [announced](#) (link leaves DEC's website) the ongoing results of a crackdown on illegal dumping, and outlined how homeowners can be victimized by companies who offer free fill that is actually contaminated with solid waste materials.

"As the saying goes: A deal too good to be true probably is," said **DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos**. "Landowners should be skeptical and ask tough questions when a contractor offers to provide fill material at no charge. This so-called 'clean fill' is sometimes mixed together with solid waste from construction sites and landowners could find their properties burdened with contaminated material."

DEC offers the following suggestions to Hudson Valley and Long Island property owners seeking to obtain suitable fill for leveling or adjusting the grade of properties:

- Look at the fill material as it is received. It should consist of natural soil, sand, gravel, or rock with no non-soil constituents (see below), and should be free of petroleum or any other odors;
- Check to ensure the fill material is free of regulated wastes such as concrete, brick, asphalt, asbestos, drywall, plaster, roofing materials, wood, metal, tiles, paint chips, ash, slag, coal, pieces of particle boards, carpet, petroleum-contaminated soil, and other contaminated materials;
- If material originates in New York City, the homeowner / generator must notify the respective DEC Regional Offices in Stony Brook and New Paltz five days prior to receiving the material about its placement. Homeowners should request that the generator provide them with documentation regarding the generating site location and fill characteristic information. Make sure that the section for the Qualified Environmental Professional is signed and includes contact information. [Copies of the Notification of Fill Material Transport form](#) are available on DEC's website
- Each load that originates in New York City must also have a complete and accurate tracking document to identify the source of fill material. Copies of this form ([Part 360 Series Waste Tracking Document - Construction and Demolition Debris](#)) are available on DEC's website. Homeowners should request a completed copy of this document for their records from the transporter.
- If the generator and/or contractor cannot provide copies of the Notification of Fill Material Transport and Part 360 Series Waste Tracking Document, the homeowner should refuse the shipment;

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- Homeowners should only accept fill material from one source at a time; If the load is bigger than 10 cubic yards and is generated in New York City, ensure the truck delivering fill material is in possession of a valid Part 364 Waste Transporter Registration or Permit; and
  - Ensure the contractor is licensed by a government authority.

The most effective way landowners can protect themselves is by taking steps to prevent being victimized. Once contaminated soil is placed on a property and graded, the process of removal becomes costly and difficult.

Long Island residents should contact DEC's Region 1 Office of Materials Management, at (631) 444-0375 or [R1DMM@dec.ny.gov](mailto:R1DMM@dec.ny.gov).

Hudson Valley residents should contact DEC's Region 3 Office of Materials Management at (845) 256-3138.

#### **Report illegal dumping**

DEC urges anyone who witnesses illegal dumping activities, or may have been a victim of illegal dumping to report these crimes to NYSDEC 24-hour Poacher and Polluter hotline at 1-844-DEC-ECOS (1-844-332-3267).

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/press/press.html>

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## **Pebble Pups Corner:**

**The PP will be resuming this Fall with our first meeting to be held in October. (TBD)**

**The weekends of 9/15-16 and 9/22-23, Please join the Island Rock Hounds at**

**The Long Island Fair at the Old Bethpage Restoration Village- join the fun – IRH has a wonderful sluice to mine minerals or break geodes!**

