UPCOMING SHOWS

2015- 2016

November 14-15	*New York Mineral Club* *Holiday Inn-440 W57th NYC*
December 5-6	*Suffolk Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show* *Our Lady of Mt. Carmel* *North Ocean Ave., Patchogue*
March 12-13	*Island Rock Hound* *Old Bethpage Village- Barn*

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

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

November 2015

THE CONGLOMERATE

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

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

Refreshments served at 7:30 pm.

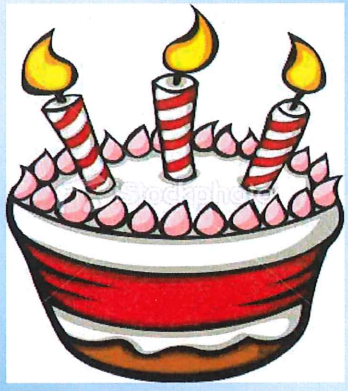
OFFICERS

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
Secretary –	Kerry Ann Hilliard	631-277-0994	Director –Rebecca LaBarca	516-768-4438
Liaison –	Cheryl Neary	516.449.5341 cell	Historian –Kerry Ann Hilliard	631-277-0994

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!

Anthony Guerreri

John King

Carol Pesek

Joyce Rooler

Claus Rust

Nominating Committee News:

Densie Buss is the chairperson for the committee. If you are interested in any position on the Board, please let her know. The nominations need to be printed in the December bulletin and voted on at the January meeting.

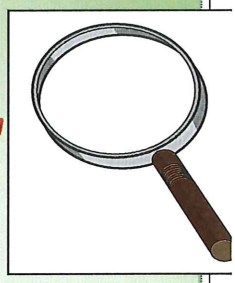
Auction!

If you have any items to be donated to the Chinese Auction being held in December, please bring to the November meeting. Please – earth science related items!!

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS:

2015-2016

November 16-Hands-On:
Chainmaille Bracelet



December 5-6: Annual Rock & Gem Show

December 21-Chinese Auction

January 3rd 2016- (Sunday)
Holiday Party at Olive Garden
Bay Shore , New York
Time: 2:00pm

This month we are hosting:

Meeting Nov. 16th

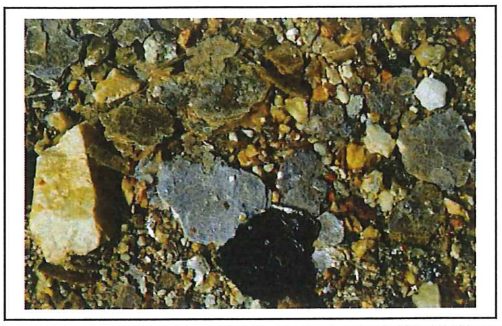
Hands on

Learn and make your own jump ring bracelets with glass beads.

There will be a $5.00 charge for members and $8.oo charge for nonmembers

Remember to bring your pliers

Let the Adventures Begin!



Mica

Sheets of muscovite and biotite mica litter the ground at the Ruggles Mine in Grafton, N.H., where mica was discovered in 1803. Credit: ©James St. John, CC BY 2.0. (From Earth Magazine)

The ability of mica to split easily into thin sheets is due to its cleavage. The thin sheets **are transparent** or if deeply colored- **translucent.**

The difference between transparent and translucent is that if you can see through the item, it is transparent, while things which allow light through but with distortion or diffusion is translucent. For example, a clear piece of glass (transparent) held to this article, you would still be able to read. However, if you had a translucent piece of tinted glass held to this article, you may not be able to read the words.

Outside The Box

Last month, participants enjoyed making pendants utilizing mica from New Hampshire.

Thanks to Kerry Dicker for instructing us and for having the foresight years ago while at the Toveco mine to grab handfuls of the mica, while the rest of mined for apatite!

We also had a brief discussion on igneous rocks and on mica.

YES – It is …….
Right Around the Corner!!!!

December 2015 Show:

We need volunteers to sign up at the November Meeting for the following:

Set Signage (days prior)
Set-up (Friday afternoon)
Club Table
Security
Admissions
Break-down (Sunday evening)
Pick up Signage

Sign-up sheets will be available
Please consider a minimum of 4 hours!

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!

James B. Hedrick, mineral commodity specialist for the U.S. Geological Survey, has compiled the following information on mica, a group of minerals with unique physical properties.

Humans have been using mica for millennia. Mica was first mined in India about 4,000 years ago, where it was used primarily in medicines, and some Hindu physicians still incorporate biotite mica into medicines today. Early civilizations also used mica for decorations, as windows and as surfaces on which to draw or paint. Maya temples were decorated with mica pigments, which were incorporated into the stucco to make it sparkle in the sun. In North America, ancient inhabitants adorned gravesites and burial mounds with animal figures made of mica.

The word "mica" comes from the Latin word*micare*, meaning to shine or flash, an allusion to mica's ability to reflect and refract light. "Mica" represents 37 phyllosilicate minerals that have a layered or platy texture. These mica minerals all have a crystalline structure that forms layers that can be split into thin sheets, a physical property called perfect basal cleavage.

Resources of scrap and flake mica are available in granite, pegmatite, schist, clay and placer deposits in many countries, including Brazil, India, Madagascar and Russia. Sheet mica occurs most commonly in pegmatites, a coarse-grained granitic igneous rock that forms under non-equilibrium conditions of temperature and pressure.

The principal micas used in commercial applications are biotite, muscovite and phlogopite. While biotite is generally used in its ground (particle) form as a soil additive, muscovite and phlogopite have applications both in sheet and in ground forms. As sheets, they are used primarily in the electronic and electrical industries, such as in electrical insulators in motors and transformers; window liners of high-pressure boilers, stoves and kerosene heaters; aerospace components in missiles and radar systems; and as insulators in hot water heaters, toasters, hair dryers and curling irons.

Muscovite and phlogopite have both dry- and wet-ground applications. The dry-ground form is particularly useful: It is used to bond, strengthen and fill in the seams between drywall; as a paint additive; as a filler and extender in plastics; in molded electrical insulation; and in roofing shingle coating to prevent sticking. Additionally, dry-ground phlogopite mica is used as an asbestos substitute in automotive brake linings and clutch plates to reduce noise and vibrations and likewise in sound-absorbing insulation for coatings and polymer systems. It is also used in heat shields and insulation from high temperatures and ultraviolet radiation.

Wet-ground mica, which retains the brilliance of its cleavage faces, is used primarily in pearlescent paints by the automotive industry, but its reflective and refractive properties make it an important ingredient in cosmetics as well, from eyeliner and eyeshadow to body glitter, lipstick and nail polish. Lesser amounts of wet-ground mica are used as decorative coatings on brick, concrete, pottery, stucco and tile surfaces.

World production of scrap and flake mica was estimated at 410,000 metric tons in 2006. The major world producers of muscovite scrap and flake mica, in descending order of current production, were the United States (with 110,000 metric tons), Russia, Finland and the Republic of Korea. Canada was the leading phlogopite scrap and flake producer, and Madagascar was the leading phlogopite sheet mica producer. India was the leading producer of muscovite sheet mica.

For more information on mica and other mineral resources, visit: minerals.usgs.gov/minerals.

Reprinted from: Geotimes www.geotimes.org/may08/article.html

The AFMS Code of Ethics

I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.
I will keep informed on all laws, regulations of rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
I will to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind - fences, signs, buildings.
I will leave all gates as found.
I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.
I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.
I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and Will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public "image" of rockhounds everywhere.

AFMS Land Use Policy

1. Adherence to the AFMS Code of Ethics assures compliance with most statutes and regulations governing collecting on public lands and encourages respect for private property rights and the environment. Clubs are urged to read the AFMS Code of Ethics in at least one meeting every year, to publish the Code frequently in the club newsletter, and to compel compliance on club field trips.
2. Individuals and clubs are urged to write their elected representatives and land use management agency supervisors regarding issues of rule- making, legislation and enforcement affecting field collecting of minerals and fossils.
3. Individuals and clubs are urged to join and support activities of the American Lands Access Association (ALAA), a sister organization with responsibility for advancing the interests of earth science amateurs with legislatures and land use management agencies.
4. The AFMS will receive a report from ALAA at its annual meeting.
5. The AFMS endorses the principle of multiple use of public lands as a guarantee of continuing recreational opportunities.
6. Wilderness and monument designations are inconsistent with the principle of multiple use. In view of the vast amount of public land already designated as wilderness and monuments, future such designations should be minimal, taking into account the increased demand for recreational opportunities, including rockhounding, created by a growing population.
7. In furtherance of the principle of multiple use, the AFMS believes that laws, regulations and rules established by relevant governmental authorities should be designed to allow freest possible access to all public lands, coupled with minimal restrictions on the recreational collection of minerals, fossils, gemstone materials and other naturally occurring materials.
8. A right to collect minerals and fossils on public lands should be protected by statute.
9. The AFMS urges its members to work with any or all government authorities to achieve a good working relationship in order to improve the "Public Image" of recreational collectors.