



UPCOMING SHOWS

& Events

February 23-24 20th Annual James Campbell Memorial Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show
Hosted by Capital District Mineral Club & NYS Academy of Mineralogy
New York State Museum, Albany, NY

March 2 10-6pm Spring NYC Gem & Mineral Show, Holiday Inn, Midtown Manhattan
3 11-5pm 57th St & 10th Avenue

March 16-17 10-5pm Celinka Show
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
North Ocean Ave, Patchogue, NY

May 31-June 2 Joint EFMLS Show
Sheraton Long Island, 110 Motor Parkway, Hauppauge

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

February 2013

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.

CLUB OFFICERS

The Conglomerate Editor - Cheryl Neary

Club Webmaster - Kerry Ann Hilliard

President – Kerry Dicker 631-277-0994 Vice President – Charles Runko (cell) 631-486-4549 Treasurer - Roberta Besso 631-666-8023 Secretary – Kerry Ann Hilliard 631-277-0994 Liaison - Charles Runko (cell) 631-486-4549	Director - Elaine Casani 631-567-3342 Director – Martin Besso 631-666-8023 Director – Eileen Godwin 631-623-6862 Director –Cheryl Neary (cell) 516-449-5341 Historian - Kerry Ann Hilliard 631-277-0994
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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!**

**MICHAEL CORREALE
LIAM ROONEY
KAREN EICHELBERGER
JOHN FITZPATRICK
MARILYN INKLES
FRAN & MIKE KATSAR
PAT SEASTROM
PAUL SIEGEL**

Calling any volunteers-

To participate at our club table at the Celinka show in March!

If interested, please see Kerry to sign-up!

The Chinese Auction was quite a success. The fundraiser brought in \$530.00! Start saving for next year's auction!

\$\$\$\$\$\$ Dues are Past Due \$\$\$\$\$\$
See Roberta @ meeting
Or
call 631.666.8023
\$15.00 individuals / \$25.00 family
Bargain Rates!

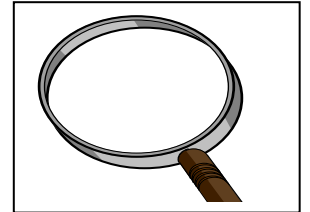
UPCOMING MEETINGS: 2013

Save the Dates!

February 4, 2013
This Monday!

March 18
April 15
May 20
June 17

No meetings July- August. Picnic date pending!



This Month's Meeting: 02/4/13

Hands-on-Mica Lanterns

Please bring the following with you:

**Towel
Pliers
Screwdriver
Scissor
Exacto-blade (if you have one)**

Please check the website as well!

Field Trips:

There still is time to enroll for the Spring Wildacres sessions. For more information please either visit the EFMLS website or speak with Cheryl at the 02-04-13 Meeting!

Graves Mountain Georgia
(See page 4)



Let the Adventures Begin! The World of Mica

The silicate group of minerals known as Mica, have near perfect basal cleavage due to the hexagonal sheet-like arrangement of its atoms. All of the are monoclinic.

Then mineral mica occurs in igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks. Large crystals of mica are typically mined from granitic pegmatites. Large deposits of sheet mica were mined in New England- Connecticut, New Hampshire and Maine from the 19th century to the 1970s.

There are several groups of mica. The commercially important micas are muscovite and phlogopite. Mica has several unique physical properties. Layers of mica can be split or delaminated into thin sheets. These sheets are chemically inert, dielectric, flexible, insulating, lightweight, reflective, refractive and range in opacity from transparent to opaque.

Mica is stable when exposed to electricity, light, moisture and extreme temperatures. Mica has been used as an insulator due to its superior electrical properties. Muscovite, the principal mica used by the electrical industry, is used in capacitors that are ideal for high frequency and radio frequency.

The name origin of muscovite is from "Muscovey-glass", which was a term applied to the use of the mineral as windows in the Soviet Union, especially around the area of Moscow.

Biotite is a sheet silicate.. It is sometimes referred to as "iron mica" because it is more iron-rich than phlogopite. It is also sometimes called "black mica" as opposed to "white mica"(muscovite). Both biotite and muscovite form in some rocks, in some instances side-by-side.

Biotite was named by JFL Hausmann in 1847 to honor the French physicist Jean-Baptiste Biot, who in 1816 discovered many of the unique and optical properties of mica.

Enjoy the project this month!



**Outside
the
BOX!
A synopsis of last
month's meeting**

The venue was another great Holiday Party at Bella Verde. Thanks to Denise, Marilyn and Diane for preparing for the Chinese Auction, selling the tickets and providing a great fundraiser! Thanks to all the donors of items- and for all participating in the event. I am sure everyone had as much fun as I did- and the anticipation of possibly winning! Wasn't the food great too! Thanks also to Roberta & Marty for the arrangements for the party!

A Martian Rock Unlike Others

Scientists are abuzz about a coal-colored rock from Mars that fell in ht Sahara desert. A yearlong analysis revealed it's quite different from other Martian meteorites.

It's older than most and contains more water. The baseball size meteorite estimated to be 2 billion years old is strikingly similar to volcanic rocks examined on the Martian surface by the NASA rovers Spirit and Opportunity which found water bearing minerals. Carl Agee of the Institute of Meteoritic at the University of New Mexico led the study published on-line in the journal *Science*. The meteorite, NWA 7034, nicknamed "Black Beauty", was donated to the university by an American who bought it in Morocco.

Though the amount of water released during heating was small- 6,000 parts per million (ppm) - it was still much more than other Martian meteorites. This suggested there was interaction with water near the surface during a time when the planet was mostly dry and dusty.

Reported by AP in Los Angeles (Newsday)
January 4, 2013

Contributed by Marty Besso

April 26-April 28th or October 4th – 6th

The caretaker in charge of Graves Mountain, Clarence Norman Jr., has announced plans to hold a three day dig and rock swap on the Mountain during April and October of 2013. He will have the mountain open to collecting from 8 am to 6 pm each day. All participants must stop at the welcome table in the Hospitality tent to sign a liability release and make a small contribution to defray the cost of opening the mountain and providing port-o-lets. There will be several golf cart type, four wheeled vehicles available to transport those participants who have trouble walking long distances. The dig will cease and everyone is expected to be off the mountain by around 6 pm each day. Participants will be allowed to park in a designated area on the mountain.

Rock Swap and Hot Food/Drinks:

Junior will set aside an area in the upper parking lot for tables to be setup for daily rock swaps. Anyone who would like to setup a table(s), please contact Junior at the phone numbers listed below. Hot food cooked on the grill, cold drinks and chips will be available for purchase on the mountain during all three days of these events.

Contact Information:

Clarence Norman Jr. (Junior) - [706.359.3862](tel:706.359.3862) (his business) or [706.401.3173](tel:706.401.3173) (his cell)

**THESE DIGS ARE OPEN TO ALL SFMS CLUBS and the GENERAL PUBLIC!
Mark your calendar and tell all your members about these two great events!**



Graves Mountain "Rock Swap and Dig"