UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS

May 18-19th — **Celinka Show**
Our Lady Of Mount Carmel, Patchogue, NY

EFMLS Convention & Show

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

July 27-28th — **LIMAGS**
Mattituck HS, Mattituck

December 7-8th — **SGMC**
Our Lady Of Mount Carmel, Patchogue, NY

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

www.suffolkgem.com

c/o R.Besso
109 Jordan St.
BayShore, NY 11706

To promote cultural, educational, and scientific interest in mineralogy, and develop member's skills in lapidary arts and jewelry crafts

February – April 2019

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 –Caryn Bosak**	**631-543-9369**
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!

February:

Marilyn Inkles
Fran Katsar
Mike Katsar
Joe LaBarca
Pat Seostrom

March:

Roberta Besso
Leona Keeley
Rebecca LaBarca
Charley Runko
Ryan Winston

April:

Donna Dholakia
Kenny Klecak
Edna Randall
Linda Zisa

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS:

2019

April 15 – Fluoresence Rocks Lecture

May 20 – Trivia Nite

June 17- Annual Bragging Rites

Message from the Prez:

Hi all-

This month meeting we will have Ray Egington discuss fluorescence rocks and minerals.

Also please see page 7 about the Springfield Bus Trip. You will need to pay this month if planning on attending. If you are unable to make the meeting, please call Roberta to notify her of your intentions -631-666-8023. They will be using Hampton Jitney for the excursion to MA.

Summer will be here before we know it! Plan on joining us for our annual picnic to be held July 13th or the 14th as a raindate/

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

The following is from the website of American Gem Society:
https://www.americangemsociety.org/page/birthstones

February Birthstone:

Amethyst is purple quartz and is a beautiful blend of violet and red that can be found in every corner of the earth. The name comes from the Ancient Greek, derived from the word "methustos," which means "intoxicated." Ancient wearers believed the gemstone could protect them from drunkenness.

Amethyst often occurs in geodes or in the cavities of granitic rocks. It can be found all over the world, including the United States, Canada Brazil and Zambia.

Amethyst, the gemstone believed by ancient Greeks and Romans to ward off the intoxicating powers of Bacchus, also was said to keep the wearer clear-headed and quick-witted. Throughout history, the gemstone has been associated with many myths, legends, religions, and numerous cultures. English regalia were even decorated with amethysts during the Middle Ages to symbolize royalty. Amethyst jewelry has been found and dated as early as 2000 BC.

Some historical accounts say that Saint Valentine had an amethyst ring carved with an image of Cupid. And for those familiar with Old Testament history, amethyst was one of the twelve gemstones that represented the twelve tribes of Israel.

March Birthstone:

Aquamarine - The serenely colored aquamarine invokes the tranquility of its namesake, the sea. In fact, the name aquamarine is derived from the Latin word aqua, meaning water, and marina, meaning the sea.

Aquamarine is most often light in tone and ranges from greenish blue to blue-green; the color usually is more intense in larger stones, and darker blue stones are very valuable. This gemstone is mined mainly in Brazil, but also is found in Nigeria, Madagascar, Zambia, Pakistan, and Mozambique.

Like emeralds, this gemstone is actually a variety of a mineral called beryl. Large stones have been found all over the world, including one stone found in Brazil that weighed over 240 pounds. Aquamarine grows in large, six-sided crystals that can be up to a foot long, making it a great gem to be cut and polished in larger carats for statement pieces.

Continued on Page 4

Outside The Box

January was our Holdiay dinner at Parlor House Grill and live auction –another success!

Carol and John Pesek provided the club with a wonderful lecture on beach glass and the various types of beach glass to be found throughout the world. They provided us with a hands-on lecture,which was both educational and fun!
Thanks to the Peseks!

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 Rodgriuez at psalata77@optonline.net
Robin Wiley at rcwiley@optonline.net
Cheryl Neary at ciervo.neary@gmail.com

Let the Adventures Begin! Michigan or Bust!

This August there will be a field trip to Michigan – the Upper Peninsula. It is open to members and there families – so plan on joining us for some terrific geology – and of course- fun! Members of the Catawaba Valley Gem & Mineral Club will also be joining us as we participate in field trips throughout the time period.

When: Flexible times – first two weekends in August 2019
Travel : On own or car pooling
Where: Upper Peninsula and Lake Superior

More details to follow as arrangements are being made! See page 6!
Each month I will write an little article about Michigan – and hopefully whet your appetite to join us.

The Quincy Mine is located in the Keweenaw Peninsula of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Mining operations have been closed since 1945, but the site is preserved as a cooperating site of the Keweenaw National Historical Park.

The Quincy Mine properties are owned and operated by the Quincy Mine Hoist Association, Inc., a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) corporation created to preserve and educate the public about this largely forgotten chapter of our American heritage.

Things to See & Do:

Guided tour of underground copper mine

Ride inside the mine on the Quincy Electric Reversible Mine Transport (QERMiT).

Quincy #2 Shafthouse: constructed in 1908, a marvel of engineering efficiency

Take a closer look at the shaft house

Nordberg Steam Hoist: largest steam-powered hoist engine ever built

Passenger Cog Rail Tram: Takes you from the top of Quincy Hill to the East Adit (mine entrance)

Experience the panoramic view of the Portage Lake Lift Bridge, Houghton, and the Huron Mountains

Miner's Memorial House

Gift Shop: Buy tour tickets here & shop for mining-related books, videos & souvenirs

Summertime hours: 7 days a week

The Quincy Mine was founded in 1846. However, due to poor communication between the government and speculative mining companies, both the Northwest Mining Company and the Portage Mining Company both purchased the same tracts of land during the mining rush of the early 1840s. Both companies decided to merge, with significant investment coming from the state of Massachusetts – the town of Quincy- hence the name of the mine!

This mine became the leading copper-producing mine from 1863-1867. This mine was also the first Michigan copper mine to switch from fissure mining to amygdaloid mining due to the discovery of the Pewabic amygdaloid lode which cross the Quincy Mine property. The mine was operational during the time period 1846-1945, with closure from 1931 to WWII, due to low copper prices. Dring the war, the demand for copper was great; however after the war, the government stopped supporting the copper prices and the mine closed for good.

Birthstones – continued:
Aquamarine This gemstone was believed to protect sailors, as well as to guarantee a safe voyage. The serene blue or blue-green color of aquamarine is said to cool the temper, allowing the wearer to remain calm and levelheaded.

In the Middle Ages, many believed that the simple act of wearing aquamarine was a literal antidote to poisoning. The Romans believed that if you carved a frog into a piece of aquamarine jewelry, it would help to reconcile differences between enemies and make new friends.

Still, other historical groups took this lore even further, using aquamarine as gifts to the bride at a wedding in order to symbolize long unity and love. Some even believed it could re-awaken love between two people.

The Sumerians, Egyptians, and Hebrews all admired aquamarine, and many warriors would wear it into battle to bring about victory. Many ancient medicines used powder from aquamarine to help cure all manner of infection, but it was said to be particularly good for eye ailments.

Bloodstone: The second birthstone for March is bloodstone, a dark-green stone flecked with vivid red spots of iron oxide. Generally found embedded in rocks or in riverbeds as pebbles, primary sources for this stone are India, Brazil, and Australia.

Bloodstone is also called heliotrope, a word from the ancient Greek that means "to turn the sun." Many believe it was probably named such because of ancient ideas about how minerals reflect light. In fact, some believed that the sun itself would turn red if this stone was put into water. Bloodstone is sometimes also known as another name, Blood Jasper. But really these stones are chalcedony, a crypto crystalline quartz. There are two forms of bloodstone: one is more transparent (heliotrope) with red spots while the other is more opaque (plasma) and has little or no red spots.
This ancient stone was used by the Babylonians to make seals and amulets and was believed to have healing powers — especially for blood disorders. It is sometimes called the martyr's stone as legend tells that it was created when drops of Christ's blood stained some jasper at the foot of the cross.

Many other ancient cultures believed bloodstone had magical powers, with some references to its ability to heal dating back to 5000 BC. The Babylonians used bloodstone in their divination. The Egyptians prized bloodstone because they believed it helped them to magically defeat their enemies. They also believed it increased their strength or made them invisible. Still others believed that bloodstone could help control or change the weather, win legal battles, or give the gift of prophecy. It was so loved for its properties, many used the stone in jewelry, signet rings and even small cups or statues.

April Birthstone:

Diamonds: come in several colors, including yellow, red, pink, blue, and green, and range in intensity from faint to vivid. Generally speaking, the more saturated the color, the higher the value.

Diamonds have been admired for centuries, and some historians estimate it was traded as early as 4 BC. One of the reasons it is so admired and valued is because of the process by which a diamond must be formed well below the earth's crust, then forced upward until it is uncovered.

But before this process was understood, many ancient civilizations believed that diamonds were lighting made real on earth. Perhaps this is the reason that diamonds have often been associated with great healing powers. Many thought the diamond could cure brain disease, alleviate pituitary gland disorders and draw toxins from the blood.

Historically, the diamond first became a popular gemstone in India, when the Moghuls and Imperial Colony easily mined diamonds from deposits along three major rivers. Today, the diamond is most widely known as the stone to give as part of an engagement ring.

Michigan or Bust!

Members of all Long Island Clubs are welcome to join the Wayne County Gem & Mineral Club for a week or more of collecting in Michigan.

July 31st to August 10th – Upper Michigan. This trip includes the Ishpeming Show on August 3rd and field trip locations associated with both that event and with the Keweenaw Days the following week.

The Ishpeming Show is a one-day show, with field trips both the day before and after.

The Copper Country Gem & Mineral Club have more information about field trip opportunities. You must sign up for them – use http://www.ccrmc.info/ for general information and on how to register, and sign a liability waiver.

EVERYONE is on their own to get to Michigan. If interested in going, I can possibly arrange a car pool for you. . I will be sending to all interested a survey so I can complete the details for this trip and to determine all suggestions.

There is plenty of things to do in Michigan, besides collecting copper minerals!

One day, plan on visiting the AE Seamen Mineral Museum, currently located on the campus of Michigan Technological University in Houghton, Michigan. This museum features a worldwide mineral collection with the largest public exhibit of minerals form the Great Lakes region.

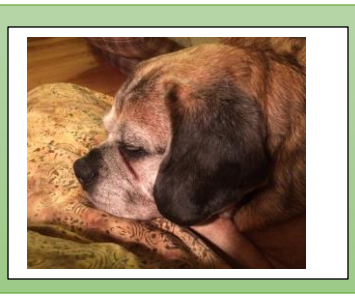
Quincy Mine is an extensive set of copper mines located near Hancock, Michigan. The mine offers a tour, utilizing a cog rail tram, through the adit, nearly a half mile straight into the hill. If the mine is not for you, there is a museum also on the property. You have the option of a full tour (underground) or surface and tram or surface only.

Additionally, we are in the process of renting a boat to take participants to a remote area to collect Lake Superior Agates. The tentative dates, due to weather conditions, are either Wednesday, August 7th or Thursday, August 8th.

I am in the process of making hotel reservations and should have more information at the meeting. We will be staying in an area that is close to Munising in the Upper Peninsula. Munising is located on the southern shore of Lake Superior. There is quite a bit to do in Munising – Glass Bottom Shipwreck Tours, Picture Rocks crusies , Munising Falls over a sandstone cliff and numerous other falls such as, Wagner Falls, Tannery Falls, Horseshoe, Memorial and Alger.

Pebble Pups Corner:

This month the PP will be discussing Geodes
Date: 04-27-19
Time: 03:30-04:30



Douglass Houghton …….

Michigan's first state geologist was Douglass Houghton. Houghton was born in Troy, New York in September of 1809 and was raised in Fredonia, New York to parents who encouraged their children to seek higher education. As a youngster he was interested in the natural sciences and learned medicine from a family friend. In 1829 he graduated from Rensselaer Scientific School, now named Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) located in Troy, NY. Houghton taught Chemistry and Natural History for a year at the college. In 1830, upon recommendation from academic advisor and co-founder of RPI, Amos Eaton, Houghton traveled to Detroit to provide lectures at the request of the territorial governor.

Since he was also licensed to practice medicine, he was appointed to be the surgeon and accompanied Henry Rowe Schoolcraft, US Indian Agent or geologist, on an expedition to the headwaters of the Mississippi, which is located in north-central Minnesota at a small glacial lake – Lake Itasca. He also accompanied Schoolcraft on a second expedition to the copper mine region of Lake Superior. Houghton submitted two reports to the Secretary of War – one on the List of Species and Localities of Plants collected on the Northwestern Expedition and one on the existence of Deposits of Copper in the Geological Basin of Lake Superior. Both of these reports attracted the attention of the scientific community, as well as triggering the first great mining boom of American history and earned him the title "father of copper mining in the US.

In 1837, Michigan became the 26th state, with the first capital located in Detroit. One of the first acts for the new Michigan state government was to organize a state geological survey, and Douglass Houghton was unanimously appointed to the position, which he retained to his untimely death in a drowning accident during a federally funded Expedition of the Lake Superior region.

In 1839, he was named the first Professor of Geology, Mineralogy and Chemistry at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, spending weeks in the field each season mapping the natural resources with his assistants.

In 1842 he was elected to serve as Mayor of Detroit, and in 1845, he was considered as a candidate for Governor of Michigan.

Houghton was a founding member and treasurer of the Assoication of American Geologists and Naturalists, now known as the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

It was Houghton that famously concluded that the copper ores of the Keweenaw Peninsula were superior quality.

Houghton's legacy includes a residence hall with his name at Michigan Tech; a town; a waterfall to name a few.

The city of Houghton is located in the UP. It is the largest city in the Copper Country. The city is located near the Quicny Mine, as well as Michigan Tech and the A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum – home to Houghton's collection of minerals.

Springfield Bus Trip (hosted by LIMAGS)
$48.00 per person (includes bus seat/ gratituty and possibly will include admission to show)

Four stops: Riverhead / Medford/Huntington/Roslyn Heights