UPCOMING SHOWS

& Events

March 2 **10:00am-6:00pm**
March 3 **11:00am-5:00pm**
top dealers, retail

New York City - Holiday Inn, 440 W 57 St. NYC:
Admission is $6.00; kids under 12 are free. Lectures, 20
and wholesale

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

December 2012

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.

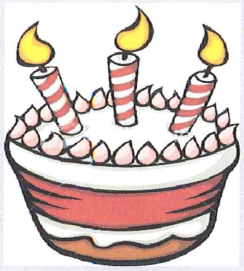
Refreshments served at 7:30 pm.

The Conglomerate Editor - Cheryl Neary
Club Webmaster - Kerry Dicker

President –	**Kerry Dicker**	**631-277-0994**	**Director - Elaine Casani**	**631-567-3342**
Vice President –	**Charles Runko (cell)**	**631-486-4549**	**Director – Martin Besso**	**631-666-8023**
Treasurer -	**Roberta Besso**	**631-666-8023**	**Director – Dorothy Scott**	**631-281-8555**
Secretary –	**Kerry Ann Hilliard**	**631-277-0994**	**Director –Cheryl Neary (cell)**	**516-449-5341**
Liaison -	**Charles Runko (cell)**	**631-486-4549**	***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!

Marty Besso
Robert Rizzo
Gary Vorwald
Steve Henderson
Charles Denninger Jr
Donna Hilliard
Laura Rooney

NEW VENUE!!!!!!!

Buffet Holiday Party

Sunday, Jan. 6th

5:00-9:00pm

at:

Bella Verde

600 Long Island Avenue

Heartland

Deer Park

$15.00 for members

$33.00 for non-members

Please pay at the December meeting.
Call Roberta at 631-666-8023
or
e-mail at mb1233@optonline.net
IF
December 17th meeting
(See last page for map and other information)

This Month's Meeting

December 17th

Show & Tell

Do you have a project, story or an adventure related to the rock hobby you would consider sharing?

Field Trip:

Island RockHounds is planning a trip to Big Brook, New Jersey in the Spring.

LIMAGS is planning a Spring/Summer 2013 trip to Poland Mines, Maine

If interested in any field trips, please speak with Cheryl Neary.

Congratulations to Kerry Ann Hilliard for accepting the EFMLS position of All American Chair

Check out the website!

Kerry Dicker has been busy updating the webpage. If you have any suggestions, please see Kerry!

Let the Adventures Begin! The Story of Quartz

This past week I met one of my friends' sisters whom recently became interested in crystals. Her interest in crystals was due to the healing attributes which she had been reading about since she was diagnosed with a brain tumor. She told me that for the last few months she was told that she would need to be checked every three months, especially since a piece of the tumor could not be removed. She purchased several crystals, and claimed that a quartz crystal exhibited certain energy and placed the crystal on her head above the location of the tumor. After her crystal treatments she visited the doctor this past week and was informed that she would not need to return for a check-up for another year!

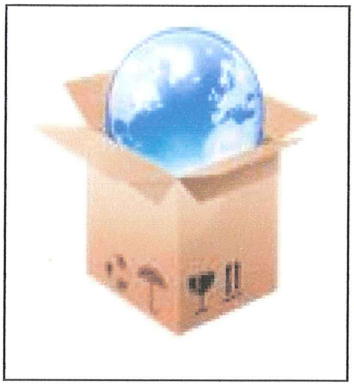
The word quartz is derived from the German word "quarz", which may be traced to the Slavic word "twarc" meaning "hard". There is also reference to the origin of the word from the Saxon word "Querkluftertz" meaning cross-vein ore. The Irish word for quartz *is grian cloch*, which means 'stone of the sun'.

Pliny the Elder, a Roman naturalist believed quartz to be water permanently frozen over a great length of time. The word "crystal" comes from the Greek word κρύσταλλος, "ice". He proved his theory with the notion that quartz was found in alpine terranes and not at volcanic mountains. He also noted that large quartz crystals could be shaped into spheres to cool your hands. Additionally he noted that quartz had the ability to split light into a spectrum.

Nicolas Steno, a scientist and pioneer in both anatomy and geology, questioned the accepted knowledge of the natural world in the 17th century. He discovered the principle of crystallography, known as Steno's law of constant angles, which states that the angles between corresponding faces on crystals are the same for all specimens of the same mineral, such as with quartz- that the long prism faces of the quartz crystal regardless of crystal distortion always made a perfect 60° angle.

Quartz is used in industry because of its **piezoelectric** qualities and its amplification properties. These traits create strong healing attributes.

The word piezoelectric is from the Greek word "piezo", meaning 'to press or squeeze' and "electron" which stands for amber- an ancient source of electric charge. Piezoelectric is the electrical charge, which accumulates in certain solid materials, such as crystals, DNA, bones and various proteins, in response to applied mechanical stress. The French physicists Jacques and Pierre Curie discovered piezoelectricity in 1880.



Outside the Box!

A synopsis of last month's meeting

Terry Szenics, discovered in a small copper mine in northern Chile, a dark green mineral with a pearly luster, which originally was thought to be the mineral lindgrenite which in fact was a new mineral and aptly named after the Szenics, the mineral szenicsite. Terry, a local collector and dealer presented a slide show and spoke on: "One of the most notable finds of the 1960s; Collecting of purple apatite at the Pulsifer Quarry on Mt. Apatite in Acton, ME."

The mountain is named after the phosphate mineral, apatite, found on the west side of the hill in the Pulsifer Quarry. The granite pegmatite at Mt. Apatite resulted from cooling and crystallization of a body of magma. This mass of molten rock was enriched in water and rare elements, giving rise to the variety of rare minerals found in the quarry. The quarry was operated as a source of feldspar.

Nominations

The Slate of Officers has basically remained the same, with the exception of the following:

- Dorothy Scott has resigned from the position of Director
- Eileen Godwin has been nominated to fill the director position.

If anyone is interested in any of the positions, please let Cheryl know by the Dec.17th Meeting. Voting and installation of Officers will take place at the January 6th Meeting!

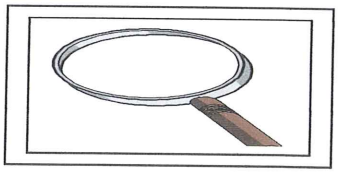
Holiday Party Chinese Auction:

Please consider donating a "Club" related item to our annual Chinese Auction. This is a fund-raiser for the club. It is a fun and enjoyable way for the club to accumulate funds for future field trips and for fees for our speakers/demonstrators.

2012-2013
UPCOMING MEETINGS

Save the Dates!

December 17th
January 6th
February 4th **(Note: 1st Monday due to Holidays)**
March 18th
April 15th
May 20th
May 31st- June 2nd - EFMLS Joint Convention Show
June 17th
No meetings July-Aug



Picnic-date to announced

News from Above:

EFMLS & AFMS News:

Our parent organization American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AMFS) is requesting donations of rocks, minerals and lapidary equipment for fellow rockhounds and schools who have lost all due to Sandy.

If interested in donating any items, please see Cheryl.

The Board is interested in updating By-laws.
If you are interested on being on the committee or have any suggestions, please speak to Kerry Dicker.