UPCOMING SHOWS

2016

March 5-6th NYMC show @ Holiday Inn 440 W 57th St

March 12-13th IRH Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry
Old Bethpage Restoration Village

May 14-15 Celinka Show
Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Patchogue

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

January- February 2016

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**		
Asst. treasure	**Joe LaBarca**	**631-242-5290**	**Director – John King**	**631-775-7035**
Secretary –	**Rebecca LaBarca**	**516-768-4438**	**Director –Debbie Winston**	**516-238-8370**
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!

January and February Birthdays!

Michael Correale
Kerry Dicker
Phil Geraldi
Diane Eyester
Marukyn Inkles
Fran Katsar
Mike Katsar
Joe LaBarca
Catherine Masek
John Pesek
Pat Seostrom

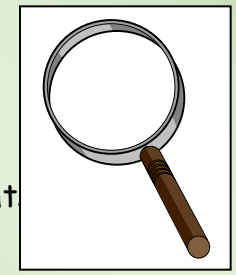
Congratulations to the following:

President – Cheryl Neary
Vice President – Kerry Dicker
Treasurer - Roberta Besso
Assist. Treasurer Joe La Barca
Secretary – Rebecca LaBarca
Director - Elaine Casani
Director – Debbie Winston
Director – Lucy Jackson
Director – John King

Liaison – Cheryl Neary
Historian –Kerry Ann Hilliard

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS: - 2016

February 22nd -Annual Meeting and Hands- On with Kerry Dicker
March 21st - Lecture
April 18th - Lecture -
May 16th - Gem Trees with Carol Pesek
June 20 - Annual Bragging Right



This month we will be making **chainmaille bracelets:**

Kerry Dicker will demonstrate and teach us how to make bracelets using jump rings-

The cost to each member is $3.00 per kit and $5.00 per kit for non-members.

Please bring the following items: Pliers, towel

See the website for a picture of the beautiful bracelet you will go home with!

http://www.suffolkgem.com/monthly-meetings--events.html

Let the Adventures Begin!

My apologies for a combined newsletter, however, the last couple of weeks have been rather hectic!

Outside The Box

In December we held a successful Chinese Auction- Thanks to all who participated by either donating or purchasing tickets!

Our January meeting was our Holiday Dinner which was held at the Plate in Bohemia. We also had a live auction which was also very successful!

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!

Welcome New Members!

Kelly Dohery (Brookhaven)
Dana Negerlagos (Smithtown)
Diane Godlewski (Huntington Station)
Janet Reuther (Riverhead)
Michele Nazaro (Lk. Ronkonkoma)
Thomas & Cary Vitti (Islip Terrace)
Dorothy Zaccara (Mastic)

Think Spring (or Fall) – Think Wildacres!

by Steve Weinberger, WA Committee Chair

I don't know what the weather is like where you live, but here in Maryland there sure are signs of winter. Night time temperatures as I write this have been hovering in the upper teens with daytime temps in the upper 20's. What happened to the 70's we had in December? With all that said, it's time to start thinking about the warmth of spring....and spring means only one thing - another opportunity for you and your club members to take advantage of one of the Eastern Federation Wildacres Workshops!

Our spring session will be held from May 9 - 15 and the very creative Helen Serras-Herman will be our featured speaker. Helen's a delightful and knowledgeable gal who has an amazing talent for unique creating jewelry, carved gems, and wonderful sculptures combing gems and metals. She'll regale us with six talks during the week.

The fall session will be held from September 5 -11 and our featured speaker will be Alfredo Petrov, world traveler and mineral expert. Alfredo too is an excellent speaker and delightful person who will be living on campus with us during the week (as will Helen and her husband Andy).

Think spring (or fall)! — think Wildacres!

If you've never been, you're in for a treat. Wildacres is situated on its own private mountain, just off the Blue-Ridge Parkway near Little Switzerland, NC. (just an hour north of Asheville). Housing is in modern motel-type rooms each with private bath. Meals are served family style in the modern dining room and classes are held in well-equipped rooms throughout the campus.

Think spring (or fall)! — think Wildacres! The cost for a week of fun at an EFMLS Wildacres workshop is just $400 per person. That fee includes room and board plus one of the best views in the Blue Ridge as well as the opportunity to learn a new skill (or refine an old one) from our carefully selected instructors, meet new folks who share common interests with you, and "get away from it all" for the week in an idyllic setting.

Just think...no stinky exhaust fumes, honking car or truck horns, and no blaring radios or TV's. What you will hear is the sound of birds chirping, people laughing or engaging in quiet conversation, and/or working on projects in classes. If we're lucky, we may also hear the sound of music from a class held by one of the music groups that also use the facility. (We've had cellists and dulcimer players with us the past few years.)

Think spring (or fall)! — think Wildacres! Make your plans now to fill in an application and join the fun. Want to see what Wildacres is all about? We've got a nifty video program that you can see by logging on to the EFMLS Wildacres information web site.(While there, you can also get more information about our program and perhaps get answers to some of your questions. You'll find a registration form there that you can download, fill in and print out as well as photos and a link to the Wildacres Retreat website.

You can always contact our Registrar, Director or me by clicking on the contact link on our Wildacres web site (efmls-wildacres.org).

Think spring (or fall)! and plan on having a ball at one or both of the EFMLS Wildacres Workshops.

Editor's Note:
I will be attending the Fall session this year. For more information you can speak to me or Carol and John Pesek, who attended last year and are planning on possibly attending another session this year!

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.

Sterling Hill Super Dig
Saturday, April 23rd
9:00am – 11:00pm

Mine tours, historic Trotter Tunnel, Upper Mine and Mill, Blackout Tour , Nighttime illumination of the famous "Fluorescent Wall" the Fill Quarry and mineral collecting in all 3 collection areas on the property.
$20.00 per person - Collecting fee of $1.50 per pound
http://superdig.com/

Please note: the Delaware Valley Earth Science Society of New Jersey run this event.

Last year I volunteered and will probably do so again this year. If you volunteer, you do not pay the $20.00 and are able to do all the tours. Let me know if you are interested, so I can notify the proper personnel.

The dig is worthwhile with people coming from other countries as well!

In the News:

Ice-Age Mammoth Bones Found Under Oregon Football Field

By **Laura Geggel** January 28, 2016 7:13 AM

Oregon State University might want to consider changing its mascot after a monumental find yesterday (Jan. 25): The discovery of bones belonging to an ice-age mammoth within throwing distance of the school's football field.

A construction crew working on an expansion and renovation of the OSU Beavers' Valley Football Center uncovered the remains of the beast while digging in the north end of Reser Stadium. They found a large femur bone — likely a mammoth's — as well as bones from other extinct, ice-age mammals, including a bison and what is either an ancient horse or a camel.

"There are quite a few bones, and dozens of pieces," Loren Davis, an associate professor of anthropology at OSU, said in a statement. "Some of the bones are not in very good shape, but some are actually quite well preserved." [Image Gallery: Stunning Mammoth Unearthed]

Davis and his students have yet to determine the mammoth's species — for instance, it could be a Columbian mammoth (*Mammuthus columbi*) or a woolly mammoth (M. primigenius), although the latter tended to live farther north.

Davis' team also plans to use radiocarbon dating to determine how long ago the mammoth lived. Radiocarbon dating can date once-living organisms back to about 50,000 years, although different methods can help date older organic material.

In Siberia, researchers recently found a 45,000-year-old mammoth carcass with injuries indicating that ancient humans had butchered it. But the newfound mammoth in Oregon bears no such injuries, suggesting that it died of natural causes, Davis said.

"They weren't hunted by people, that's clear," he said. "Animals who were sick would often go to a body of water and die there, so it's not unusual to find a group of bones like this."

Perhaps when these animals died, at least 10,000 years ago, the area where the stadium now stands was a bog or marsh that served as a watering hole for ice-age animals, Davis said.

Construction workers found the animal bones in a 10-foot-deep (3 meters) plot. They stopped work as soon as they uncovered the femur, said Tim Sissel, the senior project manager of Hunt/Fortis, a joint

venture and general contractor on the project.

However, because there were no human artifacts or remains found, the site is not considered an archaeological site, Davis said. So, he and his colleagues removed the dirt containing the bones, and construction on the stadium continued.

Now that he has the bones, Davis said he would soak them in water to thwart further deterioration. The members of the team will also continue to examine the pile of dirt that encased the bones to see whether they can find any more ice-age remains.

"It just goes to show that there's a whole world of the past that exists under the ground, and [it's] so neat that we could actually find it here at Reser stadium," Davis said. "As you're watching a football game, you can be thinking that beneath your foot lie the bodies of extinct animals that relate to the past."

Follow Laura Geggel on Twitter @LauraGeggel. Follow Live Science @livescience, Facebook &Google+. Original article on Live Science.