

*Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club, Inc.*

*P.O. Box 142, Sayre PA 18840-0142*



**PURPOSE:** The club was organized in 1962 in Sayre, PA to assemble for the purpose of studying and collecting rock, mineral, fossil, and shell specimens, and to develop skills in the lapidary arts. We are members of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary Societies (EFMLS) and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS).

**DUES** are payable to the treasurer BY January 1st of each year. After that date membership will be terminated. Make checks payable to Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club, Inc. as follows: \$12.00 for Family; \$8.00 for Subscribing Patron; \$8.00 for Individual and Junior members (under age 17) not covered by a family membership.

**MEETINGS** are held at the Sayre High School (on Lockhart Street) at 7:00 PM in the cafeteria, the 2nd Wednesday each month, except JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, and DECEMBER. Those meetings and events (and any changes) will be announced in this newsletter, with location and schedule, as well as on our website [chehannarocks.com](http://chehannarocks.com). Visitors are always welcome.

**FIELD TRIPS** are scheduled regularly from May through September; dates and details will be announced in this newsletter and on the club website.

**ARTICLES** submitted for publishing should be emailed to the editor using any text (ASCII) format; attempt will be made to use whatever is sent. Please make paragraphs obvious.

Deadline for submissions to the next Shin-Skinner issue is **21-October-2017**. Whatever you send me is likely to get published, so please **clearly mark** any part you don't want to see in print. Articles without by-line are written by the editor.

**Permission** is hereby granted Eastern Federation or American Federation member clubs to reprint material contained in the Shin-Skinner News providing proper credit is given to the author or photographer, if known, and Shin-Skinner News. If you use anything, an email note to the editor would be appreciated.

#### OFFICERS

President: Bob McGuire [uvbob@epix.net](mailto:uvbob@epix.net)  
 Vice-Pres: Ted Rieth [tjrieth@epix.net](mailto:tjrieth@epix.net)  
 Acting Secretary: JoAnn McGuire [uvbob@epix.net](mailto:uvbob@epix.net)  
 Treasurer & member chair: Trish Benish  
[patriciabenish@gmail.com](mailto:patriciabenish@gmail.com)  
 Immed. Past Pres. Inga Wells  
[Ingawells@yahoo.com](mailto:Ingawells@yahoo.com)

**BOARD** meetings are held at 6PM on odd-numbered months unless special meetings are called by the president.

#### BOARD MEMBERS:

Bruce Benish, Jeff Benish, Mary Walter

#### APPOINTED

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 Meeting Host: Peggy Huffman 570-746-1809  
 Show & Dealer Chair: Bob McGuire 570-928-9238  
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 Librarian: *Open*  
 Sunshine Chair: JoAnn McGuire 570-928-9238  
[uvbob@epix.net](mailto:uvbob@epix.net)

## Notable this month...

Sat Oct 7 7am-2pm, Sun Oct 8 7am-12pm — Dolomite Products Walworth Quarry Open House

Wed Oct 11, 7pm — Annual Auction Meeting — Sayre High School cafeteria (on Lockhart St)

Fri Oct 20 - Sun Oct 22 — 66th Annual EFMLS Convention — Bristol, CT

Visit us at our website: <http://www.chehannarocks.com>

We Talk To Each Other - We Help Each Other - We Teach Each Other - We Smile A Lot!

## President's Note

You missed a really good program last month, but the auction is this month. Bring your secondary specimens and mineral related items to donate to the auction and bring some money to bid on an item or two that someone else brought. They might bring in a specimen that you wish you had or if it is something that they made, you know you don't have one of those. That is the minor way we make money for the club.

Bus trip had to be cancelled due to lack of commitment. Maybe next year we will be lucky enough to have more participation.

The current Pres, Vice Prez, and secretary offices will be up in June. JoAnn said she would fill Peggy's spot till June, so some folks better be ready to give their names to the election board when it convenes in a few months.

A board is conjuring up the annual Christmas party. They will probably have some suggestions that have to be voted on so try to be at the October meeting.

**Don't forget the auction** and bring some friends. They might get the rock bug and join the club.

—See you there,  
Bob



Deb Twig: 1916 Susquehanna River Expedition

## Sunshine Report

It was so good to see Hilda Gardiner and Bill Dimmick at the last meeting. Both have had major health issues, but are coming along well. Still need prayers for full recoveries. Bill is in remission right now after having another toe removed, and Hilda will need more chemo treatments after her cancer surgery. Keep them in your thoughts.

Get well wishes to Inga Wells who has been under the weather with her allergies and colds. Hope she feels better soon.

Peggy Huffman is doing pretty good since her knee replacement surgery. Doesn't drive too much right now, but is getting around and progressing slowly. Get well, Peggy.

Birthdays for October include: Scott Yeager-Hall, 7th; Mike Henrich and Chris DeMarco, 11th; and David Walter, 29th. Hope you all have a nice day.

Happy Anniversary to Marv and Hazel Remaley, celebrating 57 years on the 1st; Colleen and Michael Ricci, 3rd; Jim and Lynn Pannebaker, 13th; and Bill and Pat Chapman, 24th. Have a fabulous day.

Hope you are enjoying this beautiful weather; must be Indian Summer, but it's fine with me.

If you know of someone who needs some cheer, please let me know and I'll do my best to contact them with a phone call or sending a card.

—JoAnn

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## ***Walworth Quarry Open House***

Dolomite Products Walworth Quarry Open House is October 7th-8th (Sat. 7-2, Sun 7-12.), 1200 Atlantic Ave. in Walworth, NY. Arrive early for safety talk and sign in. Normal quarry PPE (personal protective equipment) required. Hard hat or bicycle helmet to be worn at all times. Sturdy shoes, preferably steel toe, required. No flip flops, sandals, etc. Wear long sleeves and long pants. SPECIAL BULLETIN: WCGMC will be breaking in its new club rock saw.

Safety glasses are a must. Dolostone is hard. Rock hammer & chisel suggested. The office area has a rest room. Coffee & doughnuts for Saturday diggers during sign-in. Water, snack, sunscreen, flashlight are some items you might consider.

People from many states gather for this annual mineral hunt. Not everyone may find a prize fluorite, but everyone is ensured to have fun..

—*from Wayne County Club News, Oct 2017*

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## ***Annual Auction***

Our next meeting, on Wednesday, October 11, will be our annual auction. Anything hobby-related, including specimens, tools, books, magazines, equipment, jewelry, and raw materials can be donated. Don't forget extra safety equipment!

For those of you who have managed a field trip or two this season, I'm sure contributing a couple of your extra specimens would be welcomed—fresh minerals are always a hit.

The auction is a way to help the things that make up our hobby get to the people who find them most useful, as well as a way for the club to raise a little money.

How about starting a **new club tradition**: a notable, perhaps ugly, piece that is auctioned, year after year, going to someone new every time. Sort of like that apocryphal, re-gifted Christmas fruitcake.

Please bring things and bid on things, and may you take home as much as you contribute.

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## ***November Workshop***

The Che-Hanna Club will host a club workshop on Saturday November 11, 2017, 9:00am to 4:00pm.. We checked the Farmers Almanac and the weather shows no snow around that time.

We will have the meeting center at SCEC behind the former Litchfield School in Litchfield, PA. There is heat in the building.

There will be cabochon cutting and polishing and micro-mounting specimens while a machine isn't available.

Please bring your own lunch and the club will provide hot beverages.

The fee will be \$5.00 for members and \$10.00 for guests. Members will be refunded \$5.00 when they come to the workshop. No refund will be given if you are unable to attend.

Space is limited so it is **recommended that you reply quickly** if you want to attend.

If you have any questions contact

Trish Benish (570) 888-1026  
 patriciabensh@gmail.com

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## ***Web Prospecting***

This month's crop of interesting rockhound-related websites:

- Tremendous collection of geology maps and images  
<http://www.gigageology.org/Collections/>
- Manganite  
<http://wgnhs.uwex.edu/minerals/manganite/>
- John Betts's Advice for Beginners  
[http://www.rockhounds.com/rockshop/john\\_betts](http://www.rockhounds.com/rockshop/john_betts)
- Search on Twitter: #MineralMonday or #TrilobiteTuesday

## Christmas Party

Christmas is coming soon and the Party Committee is making plans for a fun afternoon of fellowship with our club. We will be having it at the Grand Victorian Inn at the Best Western in Sayre, Sunday December 10.

The cost will be \$5.00 for members (after six months) and \$10.00 for guests. Members will receive a refund of \$5.00 if you attend but no refund if you do not attend. This is an option only that if you prefer that your cost of the dinner be sent to the Valley Food Pantry as a donation instead of a refund the club will honor that. Please let me know if you want a refund or if you want it to be a donation. We will choose a charity each year. **Reservations** are due by **November 22, 2017**.

We will still do the optional gift swap for those who want to participate by bringing a gift costing about \$8-10 hobby related and labeled male or female, if it is gender specific.

Grand Victorian Inn - Best Western  
255 Spring St.  
Sayre, PA 18840  
(570) 888-7711

Sunday, December 10  
Social hour 12:00p.m.  
Dinner hour 1:00p.m.

Please send reservations for the party to:

Trish Benish  
9516 N. Rome Rd.  
Athens, PA 18810

and make out checks to "Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club".



## Inga and the Kocsis Family

The Wesley Kocsis family, mom Janet, Halia, Myles, and Ruby came to the house on Sunday morning, September 17, to try some new things with metallic ores. The kids enjoyed using a micro torch to turn some metal clay into silver disks.

I had invested in several kits a few years ago, but we never had the opportunity to use them. We had planned to pound some old nickel/silver spoons and forks into art. Duane was kind enough to use his vise and saw to cut the silverware.

We learned: in order to heat up the utensils enough to make them malleable—we needed a bigger torch, bigger hammer, etc. Wes tried to heat the metal with the micro torch but it was too cumbersome. We did not try the sheets of copper, silver, brass, and bronze and will try them when my workshop is set up. Those things are sharp when cut into shapes.

Wes became interested in rocks as a child. His parents traveled the world and brought back interesting rocks from their trips. I remember the family coming to the show when it was still at the IR Hall. Some of the current family vacations take them to Curaçao. The older kids have their diving certificates and as soon as Ruby is old enough, she will be diving with Grandpa, Dad, and siblings. Janet prefers snorkeling. They posted some awesome photos on our Rockhound Facebook site. Wes has a beautiful specimen of Celestine on his office desk. In case you have not heard, Celestine was approved as Pennsylvania's State Mineral last October.

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## **Inga ... continued**

The next meeting at my house will be soapstone carving. Not sure of the date yet. If you are interested in carving stone let me know. I usually post stuff on our Rockhound Facebook site, but you can always e-mail or call me.

In an old Shin-Skinner Newsletter from September 1990, the Pebble Pups made plans to go to the [Faylor-Middle Quarry](#) in Winfield, PA. We used to look forward to that event with lots of collecting and tailgating.

The 1990s were the "good old times", with lots of field trips, packing my sweet old ladies, Betty Hasco, Betty Jones, and Helen Wittry in my small car to go collecting. Now, I'm the sweet old lady with an old car and and old body, but I'm still dreaming of a good field trip.

Photo by Wes.

—Inga

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## **Che-Hanna Sept Meeting Minutes**

Meeting came to order with President Bob McGuire. All stood for the Pledge to the flag. Due to resignation of Peggy Huffman, minutes were taken by JoAnn McGuire, until her term is up in 2018. There were no corrections to the minutes in the newsletter. Trish gave the treasurer's report. Will have the budget at the October meeting. Report was filed for audit.

Due to Inga not feeling well, she didn't make the meeting, so there was no Pebble Pups report.

Bill Chapman gave a report on up-coming field trips. He had one planned for the weekend of the 16th to Gouverneur to Power Farm, Seavy mine. Check Wayne County website for details. Dave Millis mentioned the field trip to Benson Mine on Saturday and he has a program to do that Friday in Potsdam.

Bill brought up about Crystal Grove and they brought in an excavator to break up the huge rocks. Also mentioned was Ilion ravine, near Herkimer, which has one inch thick calcite of color.

Old business - the bench is ready as soon as the wording for the plaque is done. Will do the wording after the meeting.

Hazel will not chair the Christmas party and minerals this year. It will be done by Trish, Mary and Sandy, who will take care of the details. It was mentioned since there is no bus trip, to have the dinner free for club members. It was motioned and passed, but was tabled for now. Committee will discuss ideas and report back.

Dave brought up about the auction and said he has minerals to give out free for a certain amount of your winning bid.

Dave also mentioned that polishing slabs has gone over well at the picnics. Is much faster than gem trees, etc. He bought a new motor for his 10 inch diamond saw to run with water. The other saw he cleaned up really well and have a 600 grid and will be run on corn oil, rather than regular oil. Will be much cleaner.

Motion to adjourn by Trish, seconded by Jeff. Deb Twigg then presented her program on the 1916 Susquehanna River Expedition and how she met Ted Keir. It was a fun presentation and very interesting. She said if it wasn't for Ted and those getting together for a common cause, there would be no SRAC today. If you missed her presentation, you missed a very well done and informative one.

—JoAnn, substituting for Peggy

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## Sept Board Meeting Minutes

Board meeting was held on September 13th, with President, Bob McGuire, presiding. Due to resignation of Secretary, Peggy Huffman, minutes were taken by JoAnn McGuire. It was mentioned that the check hadn't been sent to SRAC in memory of Ted Keir, so Trish is to write the check and give it to Deb Twigg. The bench, in memory of Jack and Marge Walter is in the works. They need the writing for the plaque, so that will be taken care of after the meeting. Trish will get the wording and the bench will be done and put at Round Top.

Hazel is resigning as Christmas party chair and getting the minerals for the tables. Trish, Sandy and Mary said they will do the party. It was mentioned to give out Honorary Life Memberships at the Christmas dinner. Was tabled for the present time. Was also suggested rather than getting a mineral, for everyone to bring an unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots or a food item for a pantry or donate to a charity. Was tabled for now. The committee will discuss this.

Trish will send the budget by e-mail to Board members. It was mentioned to increase the honorarium.

Hazel and Marv will be attending the EFMLS convention in CT in October.

It was brought up to lower the admission price for our show, but was not passed. It was said that our price is low enough. Marc Wilson and Bill Klose cannot make our 2018 show. **Think of another attraction.** For publicity, Hazel gets the word out to magazines in October, so an attraction has to be done soon.

Have to start thinking of officers for next year. Trish is the only one who said she will take Treasurer, so President, Vice President and Secretary are needed.

Nothing so far from Athens Fire Dept. about our deposit.

Trish had a copy of Penn Lines magazine which did the article at our picnic in August. Nicely done. (You can download the whole issue at <http://tinyurl.com/ybew2qpy>.)

Ted Rieth brought up about the bus trip and why it was cancelled. Is to check about a smaller bus or stretch van. Check prices from other companies, such as Shaffer or others to get the best price.

Meeting was adjourned.

—JoAnn, substituting for Peggy

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## Editor's Note

Well, we're coming to the end of another field collecting season. I hope you all got some trips in this year.

There are a lot of different ways you can be a rockhound. There are different limits you can place on what you collect, as well as what you do with or for that collection.

For myself, I like minerals and rocks, but gave up on fossils. I prefer thumbnails, but also have sizes from micromounts to rock-garden rocks. I really like field collecting, rock shows somewhat less, but don't get to do much of either these days. Being in the computer industry, I like working on my catalog.

What kind of club we have depends a lot on what kind of collector you want to be. If you let the Che-Hanna officers know, they can better shape it for you.

It would be interesting for everyone if you'd **send me a note about your rockhounding**: how you'd characterize what you do and what you have. I think it would be interesting to print some of these collector profiles.

For those of you who receive the electronic version of the Shin-Skinner, I hope you have noticed that many of the Internet "URLs" in the text are "live". That is, you can click on them and, if your software cooperates, immediately visit the website they refer to: one of the advantages of email vs paper mail delivery.

## Kid Safety

There is a very nice article in the October 2017 AFMS Newsletter entitled "Safety Matters - Kid Safety", by Ellery Borow, AFMS Safety Chair. (Download the whole newsletter at [http://www.amfed.org/news/n2017\\_09.pdf](http://www.amfed.org/news/n2017_09.pdf).)

Its theme is that, while the dangers of field collecting are the same for kids as adults, the mitigations are not. Here are its main points:

- Softer safety goggles are needed to fit smaller heads
- Get right-sized heavy duty gloves
- Use very adjustable hard hats
- Some smaller sizes can be found for steel toe boots
- Smaller tools are safer
- No matter what you do, some (commercial) locations won't allow kids
- **Don't be unsafe around kids**—they watch and learn from adults

If you are involved with kids and field collecting, in any way, the [article](#) is a good read.

## Upcoming Shows



### October

#### 7... MACUNGIE, PA:

2017 Autumn Mineralfest, 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM, Macungie Memorial Park; 100 tables; minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry, crystals and geodes. [www.mineralfest.com](http://www.mineralfest.com)

#### 20-22... BRISTOL, CT:

66th **EFMLS Convention** will be held in conjunction with the 45th Annual Gem and Mineral Show in Bristol, Connecticut, hosted by the Bristol Gem and Mineral Club. See <http://www.amfed.org/efmls/convention.htm> for details.

#### 21-22... OGDENSBURG, NJ:

North Jersey Outdoor Rock & Mineral Swap & Sell; Sterling Hill Mining Museum, 30 Plant St.

#### 28... BIGLERVILLE, PA:

Swap & Sale; Franklin County & Central Penn Rock & Mineral Clubs, South Mountain Fairgrounds; 615 Narrows Road; Sat. 8-3; Adults/Seniors \$1, Students/Children Free; Lots of fun for all ages in a covered pavilion with food stand.; contact Tom Smith, (717)-552-6554; e-mail: [tsmith1012@comcast.net](mailto:tsmith1012@comcast.net)

#### 28-29... EAST ROCHESTER, NY:

45th Annual Rochester Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, and Fossil Show & Sale; Sat 10-6; Sun 10-5. At Total Sports Experience, 435 West Commercial St. [Rochester Lapidary Society](#).