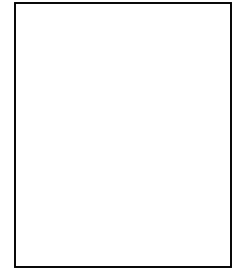


# January 2012 Edition of

## The Shin-Skinner News

Frank Meadows – Editor  
419 Richard Place  
Ithaca, NY 14850



FIRST CLASS MAIL

January  
Birthstone



Garnet

To:

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

*P.O. Box 142 Sayre, PA. 18840-0022*

**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 and Lapidary Societies, and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

**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 P.M. in the Cafeteria, the 2nd Wednesday each month, except JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, and DECEMBER. Those meetings/events (and any changes) will be announced in the newsletter as to event time, date and location. Visitors are always welcome.

**FIELD TRIPS** are scheduled regularly from May through September; dates and details to be announced in the Shin-Skinner News

**ARTICLES** submitted for publishing should be emailed to the editor using MS Word format. Deadline for submissions to the Shin-Skinner News is the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding publication. Articles without by-line are written by the editor. Uncredited photos by Frank Meadows. Permission is hereby granted to member clubs of Eastern Federation and/or the American Federation to reprint material contained in the Shin-Skinner News providing proper credit is given to the author, if known, and the Shin-Skinner News.

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

BOARD MEMBERS: Marv Remaley, Chuck Hessler, & Sandy Keener

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

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



Photo by JoAnn McGuire



Bob McGuire

*PREZ NOTES* *By Bob McGuire*

Hi to all. Santa stopped here briefly and ate the cookies and drank the Coke, and left a few gifts. I did get one piece of coal. Hope your tree had a lot of good stuff. Now we are into a new year with a lot of new and old chores to get done. I hope the New Year is a great year for everyone and maybe the best one ever.

Don't forget the monthly meeting on the 11th of January. The program will be on the trip to Wild Acres by our own Frank and Holly Meadows. Knowing these folks, it is bound to be very interesting and entertaining. Don't miss it.

Winter has been pretty good to us so far and I hope it continues, but if the school is closed on our meeting dates, the meeting is canceled. That reminder out of the way, now we have to really get moving on our annual show which is only about 11 weeks away.

**BOARD MEETING AT 6:00 BEFORE OUR REGULAR MEETING.** Bring a friend and see you at the meeting. Bob

**INSIDE THE SHIN-SKINNER**

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Next meeting on January 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM  
 (Board Meeting at 6PM)

*Happy New Year!!!*

Photo by C.Bourne



JoAnn McGuire

## *Sunshine Report*

*By JoAnn McGuire*

Hope you all had a really nice Christmas Holiday and will have a Happy, Healthy Prosperous New Year. Ours was pretty nice and the weather held out with no storms, so that was a plus.



Talked with Maggie Hessler. She said Chuck isn't feeling too well right now. He had fallen last week a couple of times and they think he broke some ribs. He's having a difficult time breathing. He also still goes three times a week for dialysis. He is at home now and that makes it a little better. She said he may have to see a Cardiologist and some of his problems may be heart related. She didn't know if they may have to go back to Cleveland or not. So, please keep both Chuck and Maggie in your thoughts and prayers that he'll get to feeling better soon. He's been through so much; let's hope the New Year will be better and brighter for him.

Abe Derstine got the ok from his Doctor and he and Betty have left for Arizona. Hazel told me last she talked to them they were in Texas. Let's hope he continues to feel good and has no medical issues while they are out West. We'll keep them in our prayers too.

I would like to thank all of you who attended the Christmas party and signed the card for me. It was appreciated and lets you know that we really do have a great club with members that care. I also got cards and e-mails; thank you so much.

Marv and Hazel are in Florida by the time this newsletter comes out. Hope they send us some sunshine and warmth. Have a fun time for two months while you're there.

Don't know of any others who need cheer. If you know of anyone, please let me know so I can send a card or give them a call. Hope to see you at the January meeting, weather permitting. I heard January is to be pretty mild with not much precipitation. Sounds good to me.

## *January Program*

*My wife Holly and I will be giving a presentation on our trip to Wildacres in September of 2010. If you have never been, it is like no other experience. Great teachers, great food, and great company.*

*Editor, Frank Meadows*

C. Bourne photo



Inga Wells

## *Junior Rockhounds/Pebble Pups*

*By Inga Wells*

### Junior Rockhound January 2012

I hope everyone had nice holidays and a great winter vacation.

We will be meeting on Sunday, January 8 at the Page Manor Community Room, 502 Church St. Athens.

There will be pizza, veggies and sweet stuff at Noon. You can bring something to share with the rest of the group, if you so desire. Last year, everyone had just a bit too much sugar. Please RSVP if you plan to attend the lunch. 570-731-4396 h, 607-425-7426 cell, [ingawells@yahoo.com](mailto:ingawells@yahoo.com) or Facebook me.

In case of a major snowstorm, the meeting will be canceled and then rescheduled for an other Sunday at the church.

I will have a small rock display of rocks with special properties for those of you wanting and needing to study rocks.

Our program will begin at 1:30 PM. There will be paints, rocks and other things to use your creativity on so you can get started on making something for ArtFest or for yourself.

If you would like, you can do something for other people and help some of the special needs people in the building here in the making of a magnetic mailbox for their apartment doors. It used to be the tradition in our building that intra building notices, cards and other paper material could be pushed under apartment doors. These days, just about everyone has draft stoppers and notices end up all over the hall way. I invited my usual craft group to come and make magnetic mailboxes at 2 PM. Some of these people need help with cutting and gluing and I'm hoping you might have the time to help me help them. Some of them might want to paint rocks as well.

I'm not sure if you have the time to read the Junior columns in the Amfed or EFMLS newsletter.

Jim Brace-Thompson, the fellow in charge of the merit badges, had this article in it. He will be most grateful for any suggestions you may have for him and please feel free to forward this to other people that might be interested. I have a few kids anxious to start working on the new badges.

"Seeking Activity Suggestions for Our New Badges

s noted in my prior articles, I'm in the midst of developing five new badges for our AFMS Future Rockhounds of America badge program. This month, I invite your suggestions. Based on a survey of

*Continued on Page 4...*

... *Continued from Page 3*

clubs most actively utilizing our program, here are the five new badges we'll start offering in 2012:

**The World in Miniature.** Learning about miniature, thumbnail, and micromount minerals and fossils, plus a unit on sand collecting.

**Special Effects.** Learning about rocks and minerals exhibiting such neat characteristics as magnetism, triboluminescence, double refraction, chatoyancy, "TV stone," etc., and holding an "Amazing Mineral Magic Show" to demonstrate such characteristics.

**Fluorescent Minerals.** Learning why some minerals fluoresce, building a basic fluorescent mineral collection, learning about famous localities like Franklin, NJ, etc.

**Reaching Across Generations.** Pairing junior members with senior members to share knowledge and fun stories, with a follow-up activity to share what's been learned. (Note: This badge was suggested by Erica Nathan, a junior member of the Coquina Kids in Florida based on her fond experiences with a senior member of her club!)

**Maps.** Learning about different map types and how to use them, sources of maps, how to make basic maps, using GPS, etc.

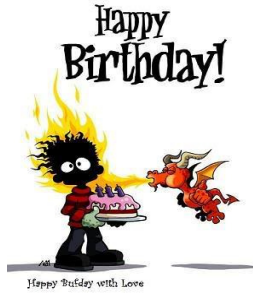
I'm now developing specific activities to go with each badge and drafting basic designs for each. If you have suggestions of activities you've tried in any of these areas, please share them with me (805-659-3577; <jbraceth@roadrunner.com>). For instance, Anne Lowe-Salmon in Connecticut has pointed me to the International Sand Collectors Society and other neat resources to consider for the World in Miniature badge. And Dennis Gertenbach, the leader of the Junior Geologists of the Flatirons Mineral Club of Colorado has told me about a geocaching activity he's done with his juniors to give them hands-on experience learning about GPS while having fun! I welcome fun activities *you* might suggest"

My Junior High/SRU Science Olympiad kids have finally started.

The February 12<sup>th</sup> meeting will be back at the church.

Hope to see you in January,

Inga



## **January Birthdays**

- 4<sup>th</sup> – Sonny Neamond
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Phyllis Robison
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Luke Buynak
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Suzanne Niver
- 16<sup>th</sup> – Dominic Ferrante
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Pete Ensminger
- 28<sup>th</sup> – Scott Chaffee
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Peggy Huffman
- 30<sup>th</sup> – Helen Fisher Witty



Happy  
Anniversary!!!!

## **January Anniversaries**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Abe & Betty Derstine
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Chuck & Maggie Hessler

*If your name is missing from here, please let me know so I can add it to the list. Thanks. Editor, Frank Meadows*

Photo by C. Bourne



Lou DeMarco

## **December Program**

Our Christmas program was held at the Towanda Elks Club. It was our Fiftieth Anniversary kick off. There was a good turn out. The weather was mild. Just right for traveling, especially for those who had a long way to come. We had a chance to gather and talk to folks we may not get to see except on special occasions. We had an opportunity to look at photo albums which Flossie Lines and Ted Keir brought. Our meal was yummy. We had cake and ice cream to celebrate the anniversary, also. We had a gift exchange after our meal for those who wanted to. Hazel Remaley had Christmas cards with numbers in them, which is how people are called up to pick a gift wrapped exchange present. There's always a variety of items exchanged. And of course everyone had a present (a gift wrapped mineral specimen ) at the table. It is always interesting to see what everyone gets. Jack Walter and Ted Keir spoke about the club's beginning. It was interesting to hear about the beginning, especially field trips. Lets go! Sign me up. Thanks to all who started our group and all who keep it going. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

Lou DeMarco

## Che-Hanna Rock and Mineral Club honors two founding members

BY AMANDA RENKO (STAFF WRITER)

Published December 5, 2011



Review Photo/Amanda Renko

Ted Keir and Jack Walter pose with floral arrangements they received commemorating their achievements as founding members of the Che-Hanna Rock and Mineral Club. The club will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2012.



Review Photo/Amanda Renko

Jack Walter speaks to members of the Che-Hanna Rock and Mineral Club Sunday.

The Che-Hanna Rock and Mineral Club began its upcoming 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations by honoring two of the club's founding members.

Jack Walter and Ted Keir were recognized for their efforts in starting and growing the club, which was officially formed in March of 1962. Today, the club meets monthly in the Sayre High School cafeteria and hosts an annual gem show and several field trips per year, but Che-Hanna began as a five-person gathering of rock and mineral hobbyists in Walter's living room. Walter's wife came up with the club's name, which references the nearby Chemung and Susquehanna rivers.

The group continued to meet at Walter's house while they gauged the community's response to such a club.

"We really didn't have an idea if there was enough interest in the community to get this club going," Walter said, until the Sayre recreation department granted the club the use of a small space for which to hold meetings. Since then, the club has grown exponentially, reaching over 125 members by the late 1990s.

"We've held together, and we've had a lot of fun," Walter said of the club's members. "It's been a wonderful experience for me."

Keir spoke with club members about the club's history and remembered early contributors to the club who have since passed on. Members in the audience added their memories of departed members. Keir also spoke about the club's annual gem show, which began in 1969.

The show began in the South Waverly community hall, Keir said, then moved to the Ingersoll-Rand clubhouse in Athens five or six years later. The 2012 show, the club's 43rd, will be held in the Athens Township Volunteer Fire Company hall over two days in March and will feature exhibits, dealers and suppliers, as well as some 50th anniversary surprises, Keir said.

Interest in the club has grown over time, Keir said, by word of mouth.

The group also celebrated its annual Christmas party, enjoying conversation over dinner and dessert items including an anniversary cake. Club members held a gift exchange; many of the members received mineral-related items. Keir brought photo albums featuring pictures taken at the club's gem shows and field trips over the years.

The club meets at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month except June, July, August and December in the Sayre High School cafeteria.

Amanda Renko can be reached at (570) 888-9652; or e-mail: [arenko@thedailyreview.com](mailto:arenko@thedailyreview.com)

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## *Upcoming Shows & Events*

*From: <http://www.amfed.org/EFMLS/calendar.htm>*

### **January 2012**

**22: Moosic, PA** - Annual Auction sponsored by the Mineralogical Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Moosic Presbyterian Church, 625 Main St; Moosic, PA.

### **March 2012**

**3-4: Newark (Stanton), DE** - 49th Annual Earth Science Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Delaware Mineralogical Society. Delaware Technical & Community College, I-95, Exit 4B, Churchmans Rd (Rt 58); Newark (Stanton), DE.

**9-11: Augusta, GA** - 24th Annual Aiken-Augusta Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show jointly sponsored by the Aiken Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society and the Augusta Gem & Mineral Society. Julian Smith Casino, 2200 Broad St; Augusta, GA.

**10-11: Clifton, NJ** - 23rd Annual North Jersey Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the North Jersey Mineralogical Society. Pope John Paul II Center; Clifton, NJ.

**16-18: Hickory, NC** - 42nd Annual Unifour Gem, Mineral, Bead, Fossil & Jewelry Show sponsored by the Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club. Hickory Metro Convention Center, 1-40, Exit 125; Hickory, NC.

**17-18: Gaithersburg, MD** - 48th Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Gem, Lapidary & Mineral Society of Montgomery Co. MD. Montgomery Co. Fairgrounds, 16 Chestnut St; Gaithersburg, MD.

**24-25: Sayre, PA** - The 43rd Annual Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club Rock & Mineral Club show will be held on March 24 (9-5) and March 25 (10-5) at the Athens Twp. Vol. Fire Hall, 211 Herrick Ave., Sayre, PA. The club will be celebrating their 50<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary and will have special displays and activities commemorating the event. Check the website: [www.chehannarocks.com](http://www.chehannarocks.com)

**24-25: Hamburg, NY** - 44th Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Buffalo Geological Society. The Fairgrounds, Grange & Market Bldgs., Hamburg, NY.

**31-1: Plymouth Meeting, PA.** - The Philadelphia Mineralogical Society and the Delaware Valley Paleontological Society Present a joint show and sale at the LuLu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike in Plymouth Meeting, PA. Show Chair Karenn Snow 609-953-1987 Check website [www.philamineralsociety.org](http://www.philamineralsociety.org)

### **April 2012**

**19-22: Rochester (Henrietta) NY** - 39th Annual Rochester Mineralogical Symposium sponsored by the Rochester Academy of Science, Mineral Section. Radisson Inn, Rochester Airport, 175 Jefferson Rd; Rochester, NY. Contact Dan Imel, [lapidry@aol.com](mailto:lapidry@aol.com). [Link to page](#)

**27-29: Elkridge, MD** - Atlantic Micromounters Conference sponsored by the Micromounters of the National Capital Area. MHA Conference Center, Elkridge, MD. For registration and info contact <[cscrystals2@verizon.net](mailto:cscrystals2@verizon.net)>