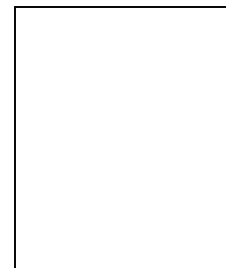


March 2011 Edition of

The Shin-Skinner News

Frank Meadows – Editor
419 Richard Place
Ithaca, NY 14850



FIRST CLASS MAIL

March Birthstones



Aquamarine



Bloodstone

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 25th 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.

OFFICERS

President: Bob McGuire 570-928-9238 uvbob@epix.net
V-Pres.: Frank Meadows 607-277-0629 Agentoferosion@yahoo.com
Secretary: Peggy Huffman 570-746-1809 daylilymom1@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Fran Sick 570-928-8313 ednfran@epix.net
Immed. Past Pres. Fran Sick 570-928-8313 ednfran@epix.net

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

Appointed

Publicity: Hazel Remaley 570-888-7544 northridge5@verizon.net
Editor: Frank Meadows 607-277-0629 Agentoferosion@yahoo.com
Field Trips: Dave Millis 570-553-2302
Juniors: Inga Wells 607-425-7426 ingawells@yahoo.com.
Webmaster: Bob McGuire

Program Coordinators;

EFMLS Liaison: Fran Sick 570-928-8313 ednfran@epix.net
Historian: Fran Sick 570-928-8313 ednfran@epix.net
Meeting Host: Peggy Huffman 570-746-1809
Show & Dealer Chair: Bob McGuire 570-928-9238 uvbob@epix.net
Membership Chair: Mike Buynak michaelbuynak@yahoo.com
Librarians: Faith Toth at 570-265-5843 and
Dominic Ferrante at Domfshark11@yahoo.com
Sunshine Chair: JoAnn McGuire 570-928-9238 uvbob@epix.net

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
President

PREZ NOTES
By Bob McGuire

Greetings from the snow belt. Hey! Our show is only a few weeks away. Did you get some posters out to advertise it? I hope so. Don't forget that we will need help putting it together and putting it on.

Last month we were treated to some hands on learning about the Moh's scale. It was a terrific program put on by Frank Meadows.

This month, after our final meeting before our show, Frank will dazzle us with another nifty program. Thank you Frank.

There will be a board meeting at 6:00 pm.
 See you at the meeting and bring a friend.

Bob



Photo by Bob McGuire

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Next meeting on March 9th at 7 PM
 (Board Meeting at 6 PM)

Welcome Spring on March 20th !!!

C. Bourne photo



JoAnn McGuire

Sunshine Report

By JoAnn McGuire



Hope you're all enjoying this crazy weather. Had a couple of nice days and now another snow storm hit us. Hopefully, they'll be over soon.

Don't really have anyone in particular to cheer up. So, to all of you who need a little cheer or word of encouragement, let's hope this will suffice. Hope everyone is feeling well.

If you know of anyone who's on the sick list or needs sympathy, please let me know. I'll send a card. Thanks and see you at the meeting.

Kitchen Help Needed



As you know, our show is coming up on March 25, 26, and 27. I can use some "kitchen" help. If you can spare some time, please let me know what day and time you are free. The 25th is set up day so we prepare all of the foods for Sat. and Sun. I will also need "goodies" for Sat. and Sun. during the show to sell, along with our other foods. You can see me at the March meeting and let me know if you can help. Or, you can drop me an e-mail or give me a call. Any little bit of time is fine. It all helps and will make our show another great success!! Thanks.



JoAnn

Correction

In last month's issue of the Shin Skinner, I listed Bloodstone as the traditional birthstone. I misread the information. I guess it's just part of getting old... Time for me to get them bifocals I've been putting off. Bloodstone is the *mystical* birthstone for February but the *traditional* birthstone for March. I try to include pictures of the modern and traditional birthstones for each month on the front of the newsletter. I apologize for any confusion.

Editor, Frank Meadows

C. Bourne photo



Inga Wells

Junior Rockhounds/Pebble Pups *By Inga Wells*

Next meeting: Sunday, March 13th at the Athens Methodist Church at 1 PM.

Our main program topic will be the show on March 26 and 27. We will look at the minerals and stuff that will be in the load of sand at the mini-mine. I have started a schedule of workers for the mini-mine. We will work in one-hour shifts and need 3 people at the mine per hour from 9 to 5 on Saturday and 10 to 5 on Sunday. Ariel Walter has already signed up for her shifts on both days.



The Butter's family garnet tree. All four of them have a birthday in January.

McKenzie and Breanna, with the help of their mothers, are busy planning the Junior Rockhound showcase featuring your birthstones. Please bring any items you have for this to this meeting. You can bring jewelry featuring your stone, or gem trees, or something you have made in the color of your birthstone. If you have a very nice example of your stone, bring that. The girls would like to know what they have to work with to create a beautiful design for the case.



Breanna and her peridot tree

We met on Sunday, February 6th, at the AUMC to work on the Gemstone badge. Thanks to Mike Buynak for bringing his laptop and showing us a video about the Hope Diamond. He still had it saved from when we worked on this badge several years ago. I was interested in the legend of the Pearl of Lao Tzu and brought what I found on the web about it. For more information about the fabled gemstones and the gemstone badge check out the FRA merit badge link www.amfed.org

Welcome two new junior members, Brooke Shipman and Tyler Burlew.

Photo by Inga Wells



At the dino lab, in front, McKenzie, in back Breanna, Courtney, Tyler, Kirsten, Cameron, & Mitchell

On January 30th, we visited PRI Museum of the Earth to get a closer look at fossils.

Photo by Inga Wells



Geo time: Tyler, Cameron, McKenzie, Courtney, Breanna, Mitch, & Kirsten.

Continued on Page 4...

Pebble Pups..... Continued from Page 3

On February 20, the group met at Page Manor to get a head start on their art for ArtFest in May. The kids have created some imaginative items. They painted everything from rock hamburgers to cars.

It was good to see Katie walking so well on her crutches. Thanks to her and her mom for finding and priming several boxes of rocks for everyone to use. Grandma Mary brought a neat book of ideas. Thanks to everyone for all of your help. I must say, I'm always very proud how well behaved and polite you are, especially since we had some of the senior citizens join our fun. Having crafts at the Manor makes my life easier.

Kids, you can make items at home if you wish. Please contact me and I will loan you paints, brushes, give you rocks and/or flower pots, eyes, etc., for the rock critters.

Inga



March Birthdays

11th – Lacey Eiklor
 13th – Bob McGuire
 Dee Neamond
 15th – Millie Weed
 20th – Frank Meadows
 21st – Isaac Joseph
 25th – Gay-Dee Bloss
 26th – Connie Fitch
 28th – Bill Chapman
 31st – Dee Margetanski
 Hilda Cartwright



Happy
Anniversary!!!!

March Anniversaries

No Anniversaries this month

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

Upcoming Shows & Events

from: <http://www.amfed.org/efmls/calendar.htm>**March 2011**

5-6: Newark, DE - 48th Annual Earth Science Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by Delaware Mineralogical Society. Delaware Tech & Comm. College, I-95 Exit 4B, Churchman's Rd (Rt 58) Newark (Stanton), DE 19713

5-6: New York, NY - Annual Show sponsored by the New York Mineralogical Club. Holiday Inn, 440 W 57th St., New York, NY.

11-13: Augusta, GA - 23rd Annual Aiken-Augusta Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Aiken Gem & Mineral Society and Augusta Gem & Mineral Society. Julian Smith Casino, 2200 Broad St; Augusta, GA.

12-13: Wayne, NJ - 21st Annual North Jersey Gem and Mineral Show (formerly the Clifton Show) Sat & Sun March, 12 & 13, 2011, 10 am - 5 pm. The Benway School, 970 Rt. US 202 (Black Oak Ridge Road) Wayne, NJ 07470. This is our 2nd year at this location. Our show website: www.nojms.webs.com

18-20: Hickory, NC - 41st Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show sponsored by the Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club. Hickory Metro Convention Center; Hickory, NC.

19-20: Gaithersburg, MD - 47th Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Gem, Lapidary & Mineral Society of Montgomery Co., MD. Montgomery Co. Fairgrounds, 16 Chestnut St; Gaithersburg, MD.

25-27: Orlando, FL - Annual Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society. Central Florida Fairgrounds, Orlando, FL.

26-27: Sayre, PA - 42nd Annual Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club. Athens Township Volunteer Fire Hall, Sayre, PA.

26-27: Hamburg, NY - 43rd Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show "Elephants in Your Backyard" sponsored by the Buffalo Geological Society. Erie Co. Fairgrounds, Hamburg, NY.

26-27: Chambersburg, PA - 33rd Annual Gem-Mineral & Jewelry Show sponsored by the Franklin County Rock and Mineral Club. Shalom Christian Academy, Chambersburg, PA.

26-27: Holyoke, MA - Western Mass Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show sponsored by the Connecticut Valley Mineral Club. Holiday Inn at Ingleside, Holyoke, MA.

April 2011

1-3: Elkridge, MD - Annual Atlantic Micromounters Conference sponsored by the Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area. MHA Conference Center, Elkridge, MD. Registration: S. Weinberger <cscrystals2@verizon.net>.

2-3: Plymouth Meeting, PA - Mineral Treasures and Fossil Fair - 2011 Annual Show and Sale The Philadelphia Mineralogical Society and the Delaware Valley Paleontological Society present a Joint show and sale at the Lulu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA.

Continued on Page 6...

Upcoming Shows & Events April, 2011 (continued from Page 5)

9-10: Johnson City, NY - The Annual New York Southern Tier Geology Club Show will be held on April 9 & 10, 2011 at the Johnson City Senior Center, 30 Brocton St., Johnson City, NY. Hours are Saturday 9 -5 and Sunday 10 - 4 . More information contact Al Conklin 607-625-4140

16-17: West Mifflin (Pittsburgh), PA - Monongahela Rockhounds Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show. Saturday, April 16, 10:00 to 6:00, Sunday, April 17, 10:00 to 4:00 West Mifflin Volunteer Fire Co. #4 Skyview Hall, 640 Noble Drive, West Mifflin (Pittsburgh), PA 15122. For more information and directions go to www.monongahelarockhounds.org

16-17: Portland, ME - 28th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry Show sponsored by the Maine Mineralogical & Geological Society. University of South Maine, Sullivan Gymnasium, Portland, ME.

30-May 1: Franklin, NJ - 39th Annual NJESA Show sponsored by the Franklin-Ogdensburg Mineralogical Society in conjunction with the NJ Earth Sciences Assoc. and Sterling Hill Mining Museum. Franklin School, Franklin, NJ

30-May 1: Topsfield, MA - 48th Annual Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the North Shore Rock & Mineral Club. Topsfield Fairgrounds, Rt. 1, Topsfield, MA

May 2011

14-15: Leesport, PA - 43rd Annual World of Gems & Minerals sponsored by the Berks Mineralogical Society. Leesport Farmers Market Banquet Hall, Rt 61, Leesport, PA.

14-15: Hamilton Township, NJ - 50th Anniversary Spring Show & Sale sponsored by the Cape Atlantic Rockhounds. Clubhouse, Cologne Ave; Hamilton Township, NJ.

21-22: Towson, MD - Annual Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Show hosted by the Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Society. Ruhl Armory, MD Rt 45 at I-695; Towson, MD.

30-May 1: Topsfield, MA - 48th Annual Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the North Shore Rock & Mineral Club. Topsfield Fair Grounds, Rt. 1, Topsfield, MA.

For more information, go to: <http://www.amfed.org/efmls/calendar.htm>



Happy St. Patrick's Day



*February 9th Club Meeting Minutes**By Peggy Huffman*

Che-Hanna met Wednesday, February 9th, at Sayre High School. Twenty seven people signed in. President Bob McGuire introduced new member, Rob Simandle. Welcome Rob.

Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted on a motion by Hazel Remaley, seconded by Inga Wells.

Treasurer Fran Sick passed out copies of the treasurer's report. The report was filed for audit. Fran will not be here for the April meeting. If you have bills for show expenses, etc., get them to Fran before then. Previously it had been decided to split our annual donation between the Eastern and American Federation. After discussion, it was decided on a motion by Mike Buynak, seconded by Hilda Gardiner, to send the entire amount to the Eastern Federation. Bob McGuire told of the good bargain that we were able to get on geodes for the show: two 55 gallon drums full!!

JoAnn McGuire told of members February birthdays. If you know of anyone needing a little sunshine and cheer, let JoAnn know.

The Pebble Pups, as usual, have been very busy. Inga Wells told of the Pups recent doings.

No field trips planned at the moment. However, the Pebble Pups will be going to St, Claire for fossils in the future. Interested adults can go too. Let Inga know if you would like to go too.

Faith Toth brought half the library. Good books to take out. Other half will be brought to the next meeting.

Show business- Publicity chair Hazel had posters and flyers to put around the area. Frank Meadows has again done a really good job with the printing. Awards for the 2010 scavenger hunt have been determined. Lynch Bustin was first, New Albany Elementary was second. Cabbings: Peggy Huffman- I will need help the first day of the show, Saturday. Chuck Hessler has offered to provide some dopsticks for cabbings. Faceting- Possibly, Mr. Conklin from Vestal will be available. Anyone else that can facet let Hazel know. Door- John Dysher has a sign-up sheet. Kitchen- JoAnn needs "goodies" to sell during the show. Geode Room- Tom Beck and Joe Shepler. Clean-up- Frank Meadows and Marv Remaley will need help with cleaning up after the show. Mini-mine- Inga's Pebble Pups will run the mine. Bill Klose may be bringing a petrified wood display. Carnegie- Mark Wilson will have a new wonderful display. Faith Toth is in charge of displays. Hospitality- Will try to get Rock&Gem magazines, maybe Kingsley North catalogs.

Fran S. has applications for Wildacres. Spring classes will be April 11-17. Fall classes, Sept. 5-11. The club will pay half the tuition for two first-time people to go to Wildacres. It is a fantastic experience.

Mike B. brought up the subject of a club field trip. He is taking a survey to determine interest.

March meeting will be to finalize plans for the show. It was suggested that an item from one of our talented crafts people be purchased to donate to the Eastern Annual raffle. Hazel, Fran and Sandy Keener will look into this.

Meeting adjourned on a motion by Chuck Hessler, seconded by Mike B.

After a snack break, Frank meadows put on a program about the Moh's Hardness Scale. He had kits of various minerals and substances to test them on. Very interesting.

Sec.

Peggy Huffman

Safety: Incident Report: Lab Explosion *by Owen Martin, AFMS Safety Chair*

(from the March, 2011 AFMS Newsletter)

One of the largest SCFMS clubs recently had an incident that resulted in an explosion inside the club's building.

The explosion occurred on a Saturday morning and was caused when a torch being used in the jewelry room ignited gas that was leaking from a butane recharge canister about the size of a typical spray paint can. Although about a dozen members were in the building, there was only one in the jewelry shop. The force of the explosion primarily vented upwards through the false ceiling and for the most part destroyed the panels when they rained down into the room. Luckily the individual in the room was not hurt by either the blast or falling debris, and the explosion did not result in a fire.

Subsequent analysis of the incident resulted in the following recommendations:

1. Properly secure all flammable materials used in the building. This includes acetylene bottles and aerosol cans.
2. Verify that all fire extinguishers are periodically inspected or changed out.
3. Review adequacy and effectiveness of emergency exit and egress paths.
4. Define a procedure for the use of open flame equipment.

It was determined that although an explosion had occurred, there was a significantly greater risk of a fire potentially occurring in the building.

My recommendation to all our member organizations is to look at their own facilities, review the recommendations above, and ask for help from their local Fire Marshall if necessary.

The last thing we want at one of our clubs is an explosion or fire that results in injury, death, or destruction of the building.

Thanks!

A Great Use for Unused Equipment

by Hazel Remaley, Region III Vice President

I have a story to tell. It all started back in 2007 when I received a communication from a young man, Mike Putney, who is a teacher. He wanted to form a mineral club. Great, I thought, but, his club would consist of 4 adult officers and the rest kids; his students. At that time I had never processed and admitted a new club to the federation, let alone a bunch of kids so I made a few calls to federation officers and all agreed that it was possible. So the paper work was done, and the *Mineral Minds Club* was admitted to the EFMLS.

Through the years I have kept in touch with Mike and his 4th and 5th grade club members. In an email he sent to me last fall, he told me that since his club had only limited funds earned from a fruit sale, he and his wife (also a teacher) were saving their pennies so that they could buy some lapidary equipment for the club. That's when I got involved. I contacted the Tuscarora Lapidary Society since they use and know a lot about equipment. Great news. They JUST happened to have 2 pieces of equipment that



Mike Putney and Hazel Remaley transferring the donated equipment

they were replacing and would be happy to DONATE it to the Mineral Minds. When I told Mike the news, he didn't know what to say. He told me that when he told the club that were very excited.

Pam Wingrod, editor of the Tuscarora newsletter (also one of my judges for the EOTO program) invited my husband Marv and me to attend the annual Tuscarora show in November. The equipment, a Genie and a "one man band saw" was refurbished by Don Schwarzkopf, and when we got to the show was all packed up ready to transport. After browsing and shopping at the show (excellent, by the way) we got loaded up. Frank Warner, Joe Pizzirusso and Don helped. Then Joe remembered that there some cutting rough that one of the dealers had donated to the club. He filled a bag with at least 80 pounds of material and gave it to us. Needless to say, we had a good load in the van. What I haven't told you is that I had talked to Dick Tillett at the PESA Fall Mineralfest and told him about my plans. He happened to see us in the parking lot at the show and surprised us with a donation of a piece of equipment from his own workshop. This added to the load.

So, we had the machinery. We dropped it at our son's house in the Poconos and took off for our 50th Wedding Anniversary celebration vacation in Florida. When we got back two weeks later, we reloaded and headed home to Bradford County, PA. Mike lives in Mayville, NY, in western NY, between Erie, PA and Buffalo, NY. Now the

C. Bourne photo



Hazel Remaley

problem. How and when does he get to our house to pick up the equipment? We set the date - Dec. 18th. He made the trip and we had a great day. Marv demonstrated how to use the Genie, so Mike had an idea how to use it.

Since then Mike has set the equipment up in a room next to his classroom and the club members take turns learning how to use it. They are also using the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America (FRA) program during their regular meetings.

So, this is my story. All of our EFMLS stationary has on it "Communication and Involvement are the Keys To Our Success" .. I do not want a pat on the back. I figure that I was only doing my job as Region III Vice President. I get calls from clubs with problems all the time, but this task was one that I want to give credit to the Tuscarora Lapidary Society and Mr. Dick Tillett. All I did was communicate !!