



ROCK PICKENS



ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB Date: April 2024



Our next scheduled mineral club meeting is April 9th, the second Tuesday in April, at 5:30 PM, downstairs in the Canton, NY Library.

*President: William deLorraine
Vice President: Preston Zeallor
Secretary: Joanna deLorraine
Treasurer: Melissa Zeallor
Field Trip Coordinators: Gary Garlough & Preston Zeallor
Field Trip Scout: Noah King
Webmaster: Glen Simonelli
Effective- January 01, 2024*

Visit us at:

www.stlawrencecountymineralclub.org

e-mail: wdellie@gmail.com



ROCK ON!

**** Club Dues ****

Dues are only \$15.00 for a Single Membership and \$25.00 for Family

Memberships run through Dec. 31st, 2024;
(Family memberships cover family members residing at the same *household and having the same mailing address*)

Make checks payable to: **St. Lawrence Rock and Mineral Club** and mail them to:

**Melissa Zeallor; Treasurer
St. Lawrence Rock and Mineral Club
1846 St. Hwy. 72
Potsdam, NY 13676**

NOTICE:

Are you interested in advertising for our club's annual show?

Advertising Chair Position Open!

Contact Bill: wdellie@gmail.com



Hit control - click to follow link below to go to our [FB page](#) and sign in as a new member, or open if already a member:



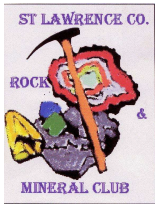
<https://www.facebook.com/share/GjDRTTK3wuP1cTda/?mibextid=K35XfP>

Upcoming Gem, Mineral, Fossil, and Jewelry Shows

April 13-14: Albany Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show. Including the NYS Academy of Mineralogy and the Capital District Mineral Club's Membership booth. Polish Community Center, 225 Washington Ave. Ext. Albany, NY Sat. 10-5 pm, Sunday 10-4pm. Admission \$5.00

April 13-14: New York Southern Tier Geology Club Annual Show. Johnson Senior Center, 30 Brocton St., Johnson City, NY. Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4. Admission: Adults \$4; Children 12 and up, \$3.50; Under 12 free.

April 27-28: "Crystal Fest" Finger Lakes Gem, Mineral Fossil Club 100 Nasser Civic Center Plaza, Corning, NY 10-4 Sat. 10-6 and Sunday 10-4. Adults \$3.00. Children 12 & under, and Scouts are free with an adult.



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May 11-12 “Quartz Fest” Finger Lakes Gem, Mineral, Fossil Club Greater Canandaigua Civic Center 250 N. Bloomfield Rd. Canandaigua, NY \$5.00 Adults, children 12 & under and Scouts are free with an adult. Sat. 10-6 & Sun. 10-4.

June 1-2 Wayne County Gem & Mineral Club “Gem Fest 2024” Sat 10-5; Sun. 10-4. Admission \$5. Greater Canandaigua Civic Center, 250 N. Bloomfield Rd, Canandaigua, NY

July 20-21: Herkimer Diamond Gem Show: Sat. 9-6; Sun. 10-5 Herkimer County Fairgrounds Frankfort, NY

August 1-4: 59th Annual Rockhound Gemboree Bancroft, Ontario Canada’s largest Gem & Mineral show Fri.-Sat. 10-6 Sunday 10-5; 8 Hastings Heritage Way, Bancroft, Ont. www.bancroftrockhoundgemboree.ca

August 24-25: St. Lawrence Rock & Mineral Club 57th Annual show. Located at the Canton Pavilion, 90 Lincoln St., Canton, NY. Sat. 9-4:30pm, Sun. 9-3pm. Admission: Adults \$4, Children 12 & under free. (315) 287-2560. Website: stlawrencecountymineralclub.org

October 26-27 Rochester Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show Total Sports Experience, 435 W. Commercial St. E. Rochester, NY 10-6 Sat. 10-5 Sun.

September 21st and 22nd: 56th Annual OLMC Gem and Mineral Show Ottawa Lapsmith & Mineral Club <https://olmc.ca> › gemshows Nepean Sportsplex, Ottawa. Sat. 10 - 6 pm, Sun. 10 am - 5 pm.

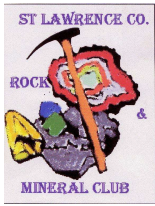
Minutes of the March Club meeting:



We called the March 12th, 2024 meeting to order at 5:30 pm. President Bill went around the room with the normal introductions. 16 members attended the meeting. Melissa Zeallor gave the Treasurer’s Report.

Under new business, Bill spoke about leaving the admission for the show and vendor’s prices the same this year. He also noted that Megan Richardson, the Pavilion Manager, is having Pavilion personnel set up the electrical cords for us this year. We talked about field trips for the year. First addressed was Noah’s suggestion to go to Maine for a collecting trip May 12th-20th. It was decided that the trip sounds really good, but we would need much more detail and time to organize. We need a specific agenda for each day, (day 1, day 2 etc.) where we would be on those days, what times we would be leaving to go to the sites and what minerals are available at each site. Also, what is available nearby for hotels, camping, restaurants in each area that we are going to; projected cost for each member, etc. Barry mentioned he has been in the area in the past and “there is not much up there”. It is very sparse for hotels, restaurants, etc. Very remote. It is also much colder than here. It could be nice here and they might have deep snow there. He brought coolers for food when he went and did not find much. We will discuss the results of the proposal with Noah.

Preston was the Field Trip Coordinator attending the meeting. Bill had sent a list to the Field Trip Coordinators with places we have gone in the past years for collecting and contacts, with phone numbers and maps to some of the sites. **At the meeting, the first field trip was set up to go to Macomb to Jerry Lancto’s property on April 20th. We’ll be meeting at McDonalds in Gouverneur then**



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driving to the site which is about 8 miles. Bill will lead the trip.

Other proposed field trips are Sterling Mine, Benson mines, Gardenscape Quarry, Harmer's Crusher pad, and also, during the annual show, Power's Farm.

We passed around the "Show Helpers" sign-up sheets. Bill noted we are looking for a "Show Chair" as well as a Field Trip Leader to the Powers farm collecting site the Saturday morning of the annual show. We'd like to find a show Advertising Chair too. Dave Millis, who has led the Saturday morning Powers trip in the past, will be doing wire-wrapping classes both days of the show instead.

Bill also noted we need to set a date for us to inventory the storage and mark minerals that are needed for the show tables and silent auction. The date for that is TBD.

Mike and Lisa Morgan are bringing back their food truck again this year. Melissa and Bill worked on the club's 990-N tax filing, completing it at the meeting. Bill has ordered wrist bands for admission to the show. They are different colors for each day and sequentially numbered. He also noted we have a new vendor who will set up a fluorescent display. He had a gorgeous set-up under a pop-up tent at the Corning show which drew lots of people the whole time we were there.

We talked a little about T-shirts for the show and what this year's color might be. The color sheet was sent around the room. Barb asked about getting long sleeve T-shirts this year. Barry noted getting some nice jackets would also be a thought. It was mentioned that perhaps working club members and vendors should have different colored shirts, so that anyone who needs help can identify who is an official club worker. That is a good idea, but it would mean getting different sizes for each person working. Joanna mentioned that we have distinctive name badges for vendors and club workers. Amanda suggested that we

utilize a different color background for the club workers so they would be easy to spot and that they be worn on lanyards worn around the neck for greater visibility. That sounded like an excellent idea.

We subscribed to Diamond Dan Publications for three families in the club with children. Bill spoke about Dino Zack's fluorescent mineral kits he made for sale and that Dino purchased new fluorescent lights for the kid's hunt from sales of his own kits. The new UV lights are Long Wave flashlights powered by rechargeable batteries. Nice job Dino and many thanks for doing all that work!

Melissa gave a report on the wire wrapping classes. They were a great success. Melissa also thanked everyone who attended the four classes. There was an average of 10 participants in each class. The last class featured experienced instructor "Rock Doc" Dave Millis. Thank You Dave!!! She proposed having regular classes resume in September then continue on through the winter months. She also proposed purchasing more supplies for the upcoming classes which will require cabochons. She reported a net income from the previous classes of \$67.00 that she'd like to use toward the purchase of more cabs. Barry very kindly said he would be happy to donate one of his custom crafted grills to the club to sell raffle tickets at the show, proceeds going to purchase additional wire wrapping supplies needed. Bob T. said he was impressed with the wire wrapping that Barry has done and felt that if he can do it -- Bob should be able to also. LOL!

Preston announced to the members that Parishville, where he and Melissa live, is having a three-day event for the upcoming eclipse; if there are lots of people attending, he will decide whether or not to set up a vendor food site that morning. If he decides it's a "Go", he will purchase the supplies. He



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is offering to put our club's banner on the site for advertising purposes. If it's a "No Go" he will not set up. Either way it is no cost to the club and free advertising. Attending members said "yes, sounds good". Thank you for doing this, Preston. They will need to get a permit, for which there is no cost to have on site and need to start the application now.

There are two upcoming shows this month, both on the weekend of April 13-14. One is in Albany and the other is in Johnson City. See page 1 of the newsletter for more information on these and future shows. Bob noted that he would like to see the Ottawa show added to our list of upcoming shows. Joanna mentioned Bancroft also.

Linda Schnittger won the Amethyst cactus quartz door prize.

Zoom RAS Mineral Meeting was held on Tuesday, March 26th 7:30 PM with Steven C. Chamberlain, PhD presenting: The New NYS Topographic Mineralogy Examples of How to Use It

About the Presentation from the Speaker:

George and Susan Robinson, and I (Steve) have produced a new mineralogy of NYS that attempts to capture at least most of the productive localities for collector specimens arranged by county with maps. This work is available for free at mineral.hosta@gmail.com. Since many of the localities have GPS coordinates and are plotted on county or township (for St. Lawrence County) maps, it is quite possible to derive a map and narrative about collecting localities for a specific mineral. I have started doing this and the results for hematite and fluorite will be covered in this talk. Not only does this effort present

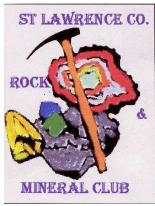
information in ways that can be useful, even surprising, it also allows me to share direct collecting information for many of the localities that I have visited, as well as provide some background information not present, for example, on mindat.org.

A snippet about the Presenter:

Steve Chamberlain is a Fellow of the Rochester Academy of Science. He is well known in the field of mineralogy, and, as many of you know, he led the Rochester Mineralogical Symposium for decades. He is now preparing a paper for *Rocks and Minerals* about the history of that international annual event.

Since his mild episode of congestive heart failure and subsequent valve replacement over a year ago, Steve says he has sharpened his focus on finishing things that he had started. He completed a huge project donating his New York State mineral collection to the NYS Museum. The **35,000(!)** specimens are complete with catalog numbers, labels, and a detailed digital catalog. A history about his collection is in press for *Rocks and Minerals*.

Also recently completed, with George and Susan Robinson, is the comprehensive ***New York State: A Topographic Mineralogy***. It's available for free as a trio of pdf files from mineral.hosta@gmail.com. Steve plans to use the gathered information as a basis for smaller projects such as articles for collectors with a specific focus. Look for those in *Mineral News*. Steve's other passion is gardening but, no doubt, it will not deter him from continuing to educate us about minerals and collecting.



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Mineral & Gemstone of the Month

April's Gemstone: Herkimer Diamond, Quartz.

In traditional circles, the Diamond is the birthstone for the month of April. However, we are seeing an increase of alternate stones being used, especially in Europe. Let us introduce you to one of them.

- **Meaning:** Herkimer diamonds are known as 'the stone of attunement,' symbolizing high vibrational light and clarity for higher attunement and astral connections.
- **Healing Properties:** They are believed to aid in detoxifying the body, enhance healing, circulation, and addressing cellular disorders due to their high frequency.
- **Protection:** Herkimer diamonds offer emotional healing by clearing repressed fears and negative feelings, fostering a sense of serenity and self-actualization.
- **Usage:** Wearing Herkimer diamond jewelry allows for close skin contact, syncing vibrations and enhancing spiritual awareness, especially when paired with other transformative gemstones.
- **Care:** To maintain their energy, cleanse Herkimer diamonds with tepid water or smudge with sage, and recharge by laying them in the moonlight or near other gemstones.

Where can you dig Herkimer Diamonds?

Herkimer County, NY and the Mohawk Valley is the home to the very unique Herkimer Diamond. In fact, this is the only place in the world where these gems can be found. Herkimer diamonds became widely recognized after workmen discovered them in large quantities while cutting into the Mohawk River Valley dolomite in the late 18th century.

Geologists discovered the dolomite in Herkimer County outcroppings and began mining there, leading to the "Herkimer Diamond" moniker. Double-terminated quartz crystals may be found in sites around the world, but only those mined in Herkimer County can be given this name.

Although widely referred to as "diamonds" (it's easy to see why), Herkimer Diamonds are actually quartz crystals, not diamonds. They are most commonly short and stubby (less than one inch long) and have a hardness of 7.5 on the MOH scale of hardness, with 10 being the hardest (natural diamonds). (Many claim them to be a 7.5 on the Moh's scale. Quartz is the defining mineral for 7.0 on the same scale). They have an organic, uncut, and unpolished look, and a beautiful, double terminated diamond-like geometrical shape, thus the name Herkimer Diamond. These magnificent works of nature are close to 500 million years old and formed primarily within dolomite limestone rock. Herkimer diamonds are known for their high clarity, double termination points, and natural crystal shape, which make them highly sought after by collectors and jewelry makers.



The Herkimer Diamond is used to deflect negative energy. It is a preeminent healing crystal. They dispel energy and provide energy. Herkimer clears the chatter in your mind to gain clarity. They empower your



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dreams because your mind has clarity. The Herkimer Diamond is said to retain an energetic 'memory', which can be utilized at a later date to transmit feelings of love, success or divine Knowledge.

Herkimer diamond is believed by some to have metaphysical properties including healing, increasing spiritual energy and opening up the crown and third eye chakras. Known as the 'Stone of Attunement', Herkimer diamond can purportedly be used to help those looking to experience astral travel or have lucid dreams.

Some people believe it can be used as a magnifier to amplify the spiritual energy of other gems. The thinking is that the brilliant clarity of these stones helps to bring balance to the chakras, to cleanse the negative energies by transmitting a high vibrational frequency and clearing blocked energy.

Sources:

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herkimer_diamond

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The Crystal Bible; by Hall, Judy; (Krause Publications, An imprint of Penguin Random House LLC, 2003, pp 142-143.

The Pocket Book of Stone; by Simmons. Robert; (Destiny Books by arrangement with Heaven and Earth Publishing), Copyright 2015,2021, p.159



Proposed Club Field Trips and Outings in 2024

April 20: Jerry Lancto Property, Macomb

- White quartz crystals, some fluorite (FL)
- Leaving McDonalds in Gouverneur by caravan at 9:00 AM
- Bill will lead the trip

May 11: Diamond Mountain, Little Falls

- Herkimer Diamonds
- Mike Whitton guide. More information to come.

June 8: Gardenscape Quarry

- Calcite, Barite, Pyrite
- Leaving McDonalds in Gouverneur by caravan at 9:00 AM
- Bill will lead the trip

June 15: Harmer's Crusher Pad in Fowler

- Fluorescent Minerals
- Leaving Tripp's Diner just before dusk
- Bill leading trip

June 29: Club Picnic, Parishville

- More information forthcoming

July 20: Benson Mines

- Mica, Sunstone, Sillimanite
- Leave Star Lake Dollar Store parking lot 9 AM
- Bill leading trip

July 27: Club Storage Bin Inventory

August 24: Power's Farm

- Black Tourmaline, Quartz crystals, Uralite
- Leaving from Canton Pavilion 9 AM

August 24 Harmer's Crusher Pad

- Fluorescent Minerals
- Leaving Tripp's Diner just before dusk
- Dino leading trip