



ROCK PICKENS



ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB Date: January 2025



Our first meeting of the new year will be Tues., March 11th, at the Canton Library, downstairs in the Paige Room

Visit us at:

www.stlawrencecountymineralclub.org

NOTICE:

Our club is looking for an Advertising helper and a Nomination Committee Chair.
Contact Bill: wdellie@gmail.com
Or Joanna: Joannadelorraine@yahoo.com

**** Club Dues ****

President: William deLorraine
Vice President: Preston Zeallor
Secretary: Joanna deLorraine
Treasurer: Melissa Zeallor
Field Trip Coordinators: Gary Garlough, Preston Zeallor & James Taylor
Field Trip Scout: Noah King
Safety Coordinator: James Taylor
Newsletter Editor: William deLorraine
Advertising: Joanna deLorraine
Newsletter editor: Amanda Fogg
Webmaster: Glen Simonelli

Effective: January 01, 2024 - December 31, 2025

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

Memberships run through 12-31-25; (Family memberships cover family members residing at the same *household with the same USPS mailing address*)

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

William deLorraine
1 Indian Head Trail
Gouverneur, NY 13642



Christmas Dinner Party at Jumbo's in Gouverneur Dec. 1st

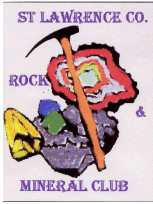
We enjoyed Sandy's presentation on her trip to Hawaii this year. Did you know: **The tallest seamount in the world is Mauna Kea, located in Hawaii. It rises more than 33,500 feet (10,200 meters) from its base on the ocean floor, making it the tallest mountain in the world when measured from base to peak.**

Thank You Sandy!



See link below for membership form. Ctrl and click to bring up form

[..\Standard Forms and Letters, Banners\Membership Form 2025.doc](#)



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2025 Gem, Mineral, Fossil, and Jewelry Shows

March 15-16—Buffalo 55th Annual Show:

The Fairgrounds, Hamburg, NY. Market, Grange & State Police Buildings Adm. \$7.00
Sat. 9-6pm; Sun. 10-5pm.

March 29-30—Albany Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show:

Polish Community Ctr. 225 Washington Ave. Albany, NY Adm. \$5.00
Sat. 10-5pm; Sun. 10-4m.

April 10-13—Ottawa Rock & Gem Show

Ey Centre 4899 Uplands Dr. Ottawa, Ontario
Thursday -Sat 10-8 pm Sunday 10-5pm

- Syracuse Gem Show: July 12–13, 2025, at the New York State Fair Grounds in Syracuse
- Herkimer Diamond Gem Show: July 19–20, 2025, at the Herkimer County Fair Grounds in Frankfort

Proposed Club Field Trips and Outings 2024 - 2025

(To be announced.)

Minutes from the November Meeting:

Joanna deLorraine, Secretary

Minutes of the Nov. 12th, 2024 Meeting

15 members and two new guests attended the November meeting.

Before the meeting started Gary Garlough made an announcement and passed around pictures of Wes Jennings' (former long-time member of the club) minerals, display cases and machines that he is willing to part with now that he's retired.

Carlene brought a piece of Green Tremolite she found in the Canton Historical Societies' collection to be identified. Bill identified it as Chrome Tremolite, having come from underground at Gouverneur Talc Company's mine at Balmat; it must have been donated a long time ago. Beautiful green layers.

Terry Collette brought in four specimens to be identified. Bill looked them over and will call him back.

Melissa gave the Treasurer's report. She had four new membership renewals. Preston and Melissa both brought up the notion of having a yearly audit. There was much conversation on the topic. Mentioned were: do we need an outside audit or internal? Bill asked Melissa, Treasurer, to come up with a plan and pass it by the Executive Committee as the first step.

Under Field Trips: Preston said no field trips are planned until next year. Joanna noted that many of our new members joined the club for the



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chance for field collecting and that it would be good to start working on a list. Preston also noted that the Herkimer Diamond Mine charges \$100.00 per person to collect, but if you buy this ahead of field season, in the winter, you get a 50% discount and can use the following spring and summer. Bill noted that James Taylor, Club Safety Coordinator, should work something up for safety equipment for field trips.

Sandy was not available for the presentation on Hawaii, but Bill will ask if she could do this at the Christmas Dinner Party. Sandy had a scheduling conflict at work and had to work longer than normal.

Melissa gave a report on her wire wrapping classes with the Girl Scouts. She had two classes for Keisha's group; the girls had fun and Melissa left some supplies with Keisha for the girls who could not attend because of different reasons (sports at school, etc.) Melissa does not have any jewelry classes lined up yet for the winter months but will be in touch. The library is not getting a lot of response for attendance so will entertain having them on the weekends in the future, with location to be announced.

There was much noted about memberships. Gary Garlough asked the question what does an "Honorary membership" mean and who gets this. There was much conversation about

this. Bill explained what the categories were and why they were created long ago. Carlene suggested we update the bylaws with this information.* We have Honorary Members, such as Sue Robinson, Dave Millis, Father Fritz, Mike Rygel, etc. We also have Lifetime members who have been in the club 25 years or more. We have Retired Service Members and the last is Webmaster.

* This was checked into after the meeting; the membership categories are listed in the bylaws adopted 12/16/2023.

There was also lots of discussion about voting, other than paper ballots, and how to go about setting this up. Bill and Joanna have investigated two sites and James Taylor is also looking into "Straw Poll" Melissa said. "Straw Poll" and "Survey Monkey" are the two sites. To accomplish this, we will need email addresses for all adults under the same household, which we do not have now.

Joanna won the door prize, Kyanite from Brazil. Joanna gave the specimen to a new young lad, a guest that was attending the meeting for the first time with his mother.



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“Mineral of the Month”: Silver

Submitted by Melissa Zeallor

Reference: Mini Miners Monthly, December 2024. C2024, Diamond Dan Publications

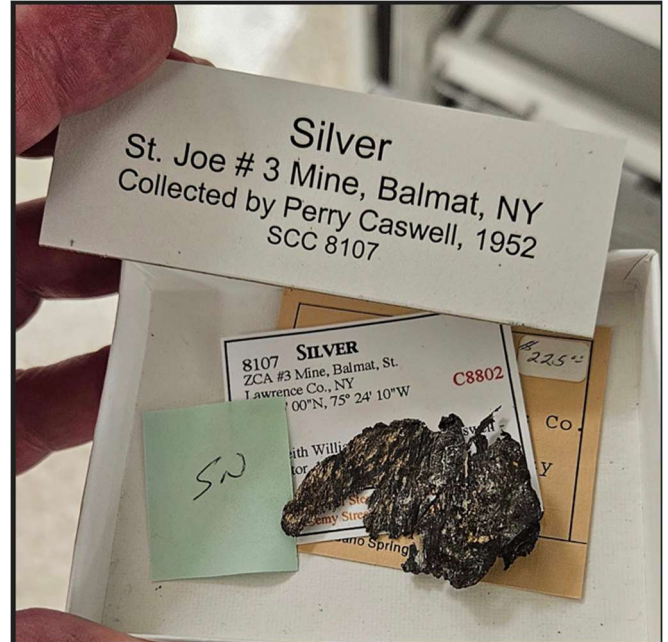
Silver is the most reflective metal, reflecting around 95% of visible light. This makes it a valuable material for mirrors, telescopes, and solar panels. Silver has been used for monetary purposes since around 700 BC. The words "silver" and "money" are the same in at least 14 different languages.

Mexico is the world's largest producer of silver, producing 24.8% of the world's total in 2023. Silver is the most reflective metal, reflecting around 95% of visible light. This makes it a valuable material for mirrors, telescopes, and solar panels. Here's a challenge: Can you think of a word that rhymes with silver? You can't! No one can.

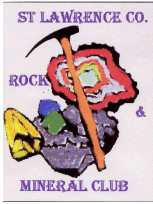
The word silver comes from the Anglo-Saxon word seolfor, and, like the word "orange," it is just one of those few English words that don't have a possible rhyme. The words for 'silver' and 'money' are the same in fourteen languages or more

Silver can make it rain! The compound silver iodide has been used for what scientists call "cloud seeding." This can cause clouds to produce rain.

Native Silver occurs in a very few localities in the NW Adirondack Lowlands, notably from the St. Joe Mines at Balmat and Edwards, NY, pictured on the right.



(Above) Silver specimen from the Edwards Mine, Edwards, NY. NYS Museum specimen.



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Spectacular Native Silver Crystal

Notes From the President



Several items to bring up here; I'll begin with an update on the "Straw Poll" By-Laws votes. To date we have received 21 responses, all in favor of the updates and changes to the By-Laws.

Membership Forms have been updated and posted on the club's website by our webmaster, Glenn Simonelli. Memberships run from January 1 through December 31, 2025.

I see no pressing reason to have an audit of our club as noted in the minutes of the meeting because of the checks and balances already in place. Our secretary creates detailed spreadsheets that account for Incomes, Expenditures, dates, and other important details for the Wire Wrapping classes, the Annual Show, (Profit/Loss statement) and the monthly Treasurer's reports. For larger clubs yes, those much larger than ours and with much larger budgets, audits are a good idea and in some cases are required. Our Treasurer's reports are presented at monthly meetings. Our Secretary and Treasurer do a great job of accounting for our club so at this point my 2 cents worth is we are "good to go" as is.

We are getting ready to mail out scholarship checks to SUNY Potsdam and St. Lawrence University Geology Departments. These are in the amount of \$1500 each.

We hope to have a Zoom meeting in lieu of a regular club meeting sometime in January. I hope to contact Sandy about her doing her Hawaii presentation again so that more of our members can see it and enjoy. It's a great show. Joanna and I have some pretty good photos that we can contribute if she thinks they fit in well.

Melissa is teaching a **wire-wrapping class** again at the Canton Knights of Columbus. It's on **Saturday, January 25th 2-4 pm.**

- Mike Hawkins and Dino Zack will each be set up at the Buffalo show in March with presentations; Mike, of the New York State Museum, is bringing an exhibit of NYS minerals and specimens that will be for sale.

Dino's presentation is on Fluorescent Minerals of Northern New York.