

# EFMILS NEWS

Information for Members of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary Societies



Volume 70, Number 5  
March 2023

## Access to Past Newsletters

Past issues of the EFMLS News may be found at <https://efmls.org/newsletters/> the password is "blackopal"



## EFMLS OFFICERS

### 2022-2023

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The EFMLS website can be found at [www.EFMLS.org](http://www.EFMLS.org).

**Deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month prior to publication date** (i.e., March 15 for April issue). If you cannot meet the deadline, please contact the editor. Issues are normally not published during July nor August. Non-commercial reprint permission is granted unless otherwise reserved. *EFMLS News* is the official newsletter of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, Inc.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



### TUCSON!!.

Tucson was a blast! It is true that you can never see it all, and this year was no exception. Ryan Klockner (President NJFM, Geology 365) and I left Wednesday February 1, about 7:30PM, shortly after he arrived and loaded his gear into my truck. We adjudged that neither of us would get any sleep and we might as well start out and sleep in the truck on the way as needed. That turned out to be a good plan. We arrived in Tucson late Friday morning after a punishing drive and took care of getting his specimens he wanted professionally repaired my Mineral Minelab, then proceeded to Yuma to hook up with the marketing manager for the Red Cloud Mine to drive out to the mine. No spoilers but that

was in itself quite an adventure.

I dug on a wulfenite stringer vein for two days at the world-famous Red Cloud Mine, while Ryan dug the first day with me and then dug at the North Geronimo Mine the second day. We would have hung in for a 3<sup>rd</sup> day, but between the pending gale force winds that would have blinded us with dust and our tight schedule, we elected to proceed back to Tucson for the show and our FM-National activities. Look for each of us to have field trip reports on Red Cloud and North Geronimo in the near future. I hope you got to see some of our posts.

Ryan and I attended the Annual Meeting of Friends of Mineralogy-National as Chapter Presidents from the New Jersey and Pennsylvania chapters (now both EFMLS member organizations), respectively. I presented my talk on the new mines at Herkimer at the Annual Symposium of the Friends of Mineralogy at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show on Saturday, February 11.

The Annual EFMLS Convention will be hosted by the Syracuse club and information will be coming out soon on the details. We hope to see as many of you as can attend this year. One of the field trips will be to Mohawk Valley Mineral Mining, a new Herkimer Diamond collecting location that I reported on last year. I will be updating my Herkimer talk to focus on this site for those interested in this field trip or in making an independent trip to the site. Communications and involvement are our keys to success.

It is home to the largest reported single crystal (over 20lbs) and routinely produces crystals and clusters over 3lbs. Great place to collect.

**By the time you read this, the deadline for dues/renewal will have passed. You can still update your club profiles and pay your dues, complete your club information form and if you participate in the group insurance we offer, complete and file that form as well!!** The only penalty is you will not receive EFMLS communications and if you have insurance through us you will go bare until you renew. All completed forms and checks are to be mailed to Barbara Ringhiser at the PO Box on the forms (attached herewith, on the website, previously emailed 😊). You can download them from the website. We extended the deadline to February 28. Steve Hart of Madhouse Graphics (our paid professional website management team) has sent out a personalized email with instructions on the website club profile login process to every single current member club. As noted elsewhere, send your request to the EFMLS webmaster email for more information and assistance.

**Every club must login and update their info as soon as practical.** It's already past time and many clubs have already registered. Don't procrastinate. If your contact info is incorrect since your election, you probably are not getting the emails. If you have a show, send us the info and flyer and we'll get it up on the site now. Clubs that have dropped their membership but wish to renew for 2023 can send their request for a login and password and put their information in now, and all the website benefits will go live when they pay their dues. A separate reminder will go out to the club Presidents and Treasurers regarding dues renewal. The website will automatically calculate the dues when you put in your adult member head count. It's \$1.75 as usual.

**YOUR PROFILE ON THE WEBSITE ALREADY EXISTS!** If your information is wrong, no one is going to call you up and chase you down for information. It is each club's responsibility to maintain complete and correct profile information. If you think you are not receiving the newsletter or other important information, contact me or email the webmaster. These profiles are where mailing lists are generated, dues and insurance premiums are calculated, your map location pin is located, your directory information is located, etc. It's already set up, you just have to login and update your information as anything changes and complete all fields! If you don't have a newsletter, please complete the editor field with someone who will receive and distribute the EFMLS newsletter. If your President or other officer does not have computer, assign someone to receive electronic communications on his/her behalf. If someone holds multiple positions, that's OK, still fill them in. We had 12 clubs that did not have editors, and obviously they did not receive the BEAC packages. This is the year we make things easier for everyone.

Note that many things on the website that were out of date or incorrect or in some cases, inappropriate, have been fixed or otherwise updated or removed. That includes the dues and insurance forms, and missing club events.

**WILDACRES is open for enrollment.** Information was sent and is now up on the website. Please visit the website for further information or consult last month's newsletter.

**LOOKING FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER.** Please forward any articles or information you would like included in the EFMLS newsletter, including committee activity reports, shows, and events to Dan's email. Send shows and events info EFMLS webmaster and our new social media director for advertising on the web. Field trip reports can also be put up on the website upon my approval. If you are not receiving the newsletter, or you have some other complaint not specifically related to newsletter content, direct it to me at the EFMLS president or webmaster email. It's likely your profile information needs updating, and you will be required to get your login and password set up at that time if not already set up. If it is another problem, such as you are not on either the editor's or president director's email list from the website, also contact me and we will figure something out. It has come to my attention that the old email distribution list went well beyond the club officers noted above, and we are working on cleaning up a supplemental list for distribution. That list has a lot of non-working emails that must be removed to prevent us from being treated like spam. Please do not call Mary at home to complain as the newsletter is no longer her responsibility.

The **EFMLS has a new Facebook page “EFMLS Mineral Shows and Events”**. Both pages (FM-PA & EFMLS) are administered by our new social media Director, Andrew Eppig, who is also President of the Central Pennsylvania Rock and Mineral Club (CPRMC), and me. If you would like to make a post, submit one for review. Field trips and show pics are of particular interest to our growing fan base. Given the importance of social media in our world today, I intend to have the executive board make this a permanent standing committee. If you are interested in being a committee member on any committee, please email me directly.

I am **calling for volunteers to chair any of the following standing committees** that have no current chair: All American Award, audit/review, Eastern Foundation Fund, Historian, Legal Advisory, Operating Procedures, Website contest, Ways & Means. All committees except the nominating committee can use volunteers.

Right now, I need all clubs to get their website profile logins set up and update their info, pay their dues and as soon as we know the rate, pay their insurance as soon as we get the premium rate from the underwriter. I hoping all clubs to take care of this before the 15<sup>th</sup> of January so we can compute the insurance rate and get that rate in your profile. If you haven't sent it in already, please get it to Barbara as soon as possible – your insurance is lapping!!! Checks go to Barb Ringhiser at EFMLS, Inc., PO Box 20394, West Palm Beach, FL 33416.

We have a lot planned for the coming year, not the least of which is expanding the functionality and content of the website, working out any bugs and training member organizations to utilize the website and keep their profiles and show/event content current. Look for more articles on the website pertaining to field trips and collecting locations, potential zoom presentations open to all members, announcements for Wildacres and the like going forward. We are in the business of getting our members more engaged and better informed as to the services and benefits available to them through the EFMLS. Feel free to reach out to me any time.

The benefits of being an EFMLS club is getting connected with other clubs, coordinating multi-club events, advertising your events and increasing your membership through our outreach programs. Help us make it all work for you!

Sincerely,

Bill Stephens, PG. EFMLS President, Region IV RVP, Webmaster, & FM-PA President



### **Did You Know....**

Cheryl Neary

The “Salt City” has a regional dish? If you guessed Syracuse Potatoes or Salt Potatoes – you would be correct!

During the summer months, baby potatoes are harvested and boiled in salty brine, just as the Irish salt miners did in the 1800s. The Onondaga Salt Reservation was located in Syracuse from 1797 to 1917. Many of the Irish immigrants, would bring potatoes, a staple of their diets to work and someone along the way decoded to throw a few potatoes into the boiling brine for a quick lunch. The dish caught on and was served in later years at the local taverns, typically in the summer months.

Although the potatoes are cooled in heavily salted water, they are not too salty, with the salty water forming a thin layer of crust on the potato skin. The higher boiling temperature allows the starch in the potato to cool more completely, giving them a creamier texture. Dip the potatoes in melted butter or ghee or olive oil- mmmmm!

The Irish tradition in Syracuse, the Irish Festival on Tipperary Hill, stretches back more than two centuries when the Irish immigrants were one of the first groups to settle in the Syracuse region in mass numbers,

The Irish settled in the area originally to work the salt industry. They would mine the brine waters by boiling the water to capture the salt. There are no salt mines in Syracuse – just brine waters! Then the Irish moved to the area to build the Erie and Oswego Canals. During the Great Potato Famine in Ireland from 1845 to 1852, many immigrants flocked to the Syracuse area.

Take to the time to visit the Salt Museum located on the shore of Onondaga Lake, especially if you are interested in history and enjoy beautiful serene scenery.



*Eastern Federation*  
*of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, Inc.*  
Affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.



**73<sup>rd</sup> Annual EFMLS Board of Director's Meeting**  
**Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse**  
**Syracuse, NY**  
**July 7, 2023**

*Please fill out all information requested.*

**NAME OF SOCIETY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTOR:** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

*(The president of each society is a Director of EFMLS. Please list the president's name only if the president plans to attend this meeting.)*

**DIRECTOR'S ALTERNATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

*(To represent the society if the president cannot attend the meeting.)*

**DELEGATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

*(Elected by society members.)*

**ALTERNATE DELEGATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

*(To represent the society if delegate cannot attend the meeting.)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
**SIGNATURE AND TITLE OF SOCIETY OFFICER**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**

**From the EFMLS Constitution**

(Article V, Sec. 3)

*It shall be the responsibility of each Member Society to notify the Secretary in writing of the names of its Director, Delegate and alternate who expect to attend the Annual Meeting fifteen (15) days prior to the convening date.*

**Please RETURN by June 22, 2023 to:**

**Karenne Snow**  
**EFMLS Secretary**  
[minerals.fossils.rocks@gmail.com](mailto:minerals.fossils.rocks@gmail.com)



**EASTERN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND LAPIDARY SOCIETIES**

**73<sup>rd</sup> National Convention July 7 – 9, 2023**

**Host: Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse**

**Show location: Center of Progress Building, NYS Fairgrounds**

**581 State Fair Blvd., Syracuse, NY 13209**

**Host Hotel: Holiday Inn & Suites 400 Seventh North Street, Liverpool, NY**

**ADVANCE REGISTRATION FORM – Deadline -JUNE 7, 2023**



**Primary Registrant** (Registration will be recorded under this name – please provide name and title as you want them to appear on your name badge.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print clearly)

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Club Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

**Non-Competitor**

Showcase Exhibitor: Yes  No

Additional Registrants:

\_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_ **Do you have your own display case? Yes**

\_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_

Check all that apply:

- EFMLS Officer   
  Editor Delegate   
  Demonstrator   
   
 EFMLS Past   
  President Dealer   
  Alt. Delegate   
  Noncompetitive Exhibitor

CONVENTION ACTIVITIES (Convention check-in 4 – 6 PM) All activities (except Show) are at the <i>Holiday Inn &amp; Suites</i> , 400 Seventh North St., Liverpool, NY. Room rate \$149.00/night (single or double). Breakfast included. Bring your tax-exempt certificate to avoid 15% tax added to room rate. Cut-off date is June 9, 2023.	Number	Amount per person	Total amount
GMSS Show Fee – 2-day pass		\$5.00	
EFMLS Cracker Barrel @ 4:00pm Friday, 7/7/23		NC	
EFMLS Annual Meeting @ 7:30pm Friday, 7/7/23		NC	
EFMLS Editor's Breakfast - 8:00 – 10:00am, Saturday, 7/8/23 No charge if you are staying at the Holiday Inn. \$20.00 if you stay off-site		\$20 if not staying at the hotel	
EFMLS Annual Auction at the Show @ 2:00pm Saturday, 7/8/23		NC	
EFMLS Annual Banquet – Happy Hour @ 6:00, Dinner @ 7:00 7/8/23		\$45.00	
Field Trips 1 & 2: Salt Museum & Paleontological Institute – on your own – any time. See the additional sheet for more information.		NC	
Field Trip 2: Mohawk Valley Mineral Mining – Herkimer diamond mine in Montgomery County. Monday 7/10/23 354B Moyer Road, Sprakers, NY. Leave from the hotel at 8:00am.		\$75.00	
Total Amount Enclosed			

**Make checks payable to: GMSS**

**Please send this form and check to: Cheryl Brown @ PO Box 125, Camillus, NY 13031**

## EFMLS Saturday Banquet Menu Choices

Please select your menu choice and return this with your registration form.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Primary Registrant (Your Name)

6oz. Rib Eye \_\_\_\_\_  
(Doneness)  
(served with salt potatoes and broccoli)

Grilled Norwegian Salmon  
(served with salt potatoes and broccoli)

Chicken Parmesan with Ziti Marinara

\_\_\_\_\_  
Additional Registrant (Your Name)

6oz. Rib Eye \_\_\_\_\_  
(Doneness)  
(served with salt potatoes and broccoli)

Grilled Norwegian Salmon  
(served with salt potatoes and broccoli)

Chicken Parmesan with Ziti Marinara

\_\_\_\_\_  
Additional Registrant (Your Name)

6oz. Rib Eye \_\_\_\_\_  
(Doneness)  
(served with salt potatoes and broccoli)

Grilled Norwegian Salmon  
(served with salt potatoes and broccoli)

Chicken Parmesan with Ziti Marinara

Vegan and vegetarian options are available upon request.

Please indicate here if you would like a vegan or vegetarian option.

## EFMLS 2023 Conference Field Trips

### Field Trip 1 – any time - on your own

#### Salt Museum

106 Lake Drive

Liverpool, NY 13088

Hours: 10am – 4pm

Free admission.

Discover the industry that created the City of Syracuse and supplied the entire nation with salt! Explore the site of an original boiling block where brine (salt water) was turned into what was then considered one of the country's most precious commodities. See the actual kettles, wooden barrels and other equipment that were used in this fascinating process which came to an end in the 1920's.

The museum, located on the shore of Onondaga Lake, is full of dynamic exhibits and artifacts. Constructed from timbers taken from actual salt warehouses, it provides an old-time rustic experience during your visit.

### Field Trip 2 – any time – on your own

#### PRI – Paleontological Research Institute

1259 Trumansburg Road

Ithaca, NY

Hours: 10am – 5pm Thursday – Monday

Admission: \$12.50 adult, \$9.50 senior 65+, college student with ID \$9.50, youth (4 – 17) \$7.50

The Paleontological Research Institution's Museum of the Earth was established in 2003 to provide the general public with a unique opportunity to explore our world through a mix of natural history displays, interactive science features, and art exhibitions. The museum's 8,000-square-foot permanent exhibition takes visitors on a journey through 4.5 billion years of history, from the Earth's origin to the present day. Through hands-on, visual exhibitions and outreach, the Museum of the Earth encourages critical thinking about life on Earth in the past and today, and how our species is affecting the natural world.

### Field Trip 3 – Monday, July 10, 2023

#### Mohawk Valley Mineral Mining

354B Moyer Road

Sprakers, NY 12166

Cost: \$75.00 per person (this is a 40% discount off the regular price)

We will leave the hotel at 8am and drive to the mine to spend the day digging for Herkimer diamonds. It will take about 1 ½ hour to get to the mine from Syracuse.

This is the location where the largest Herkimer diamond on record was found. It's known for its water clear crystals.

**Herkimer diamonds** are [double-terminated quartz](#) crystals discovered within exposed outcrops of [dolomite](#) in and around [Herkimer County, New York](#) and the [Mohawk River](#) Valley. Not actually [diamonds](#), the "diamond" in their name is due to both their clarity and natural faceting - crystals possess double termination points and 18 total faces (six on each point, six around the center). Because the first discovery sites were in the village of [Middleville](#) and in the city of [Little Falls](#), respectively, the crystal is also known as a **Middleville diamond** or a **Little Falls diamond**. (From Wikipedia)



## Safety Story

Ellery Barow

There are a thousand safety stories out there, but only one will be told here.

The winter was cold. A layer of ice, a layer of about 16 to 20 inches of dense snow, and on top, another layer of about one- and one-half inches of ice had built up on the roof. The judgement was that there was too much weight for the roof. It had to be shoveled off. The roof was too slippery to stand on for the needed shoveling. Another roof snow clearing plan was devised. Instead of shoveling, ladders were set up on either side of the roof. The snow and ice were going to be pulled off the roof with a “roof rake”. Or rather, that was how it should have worked. After several tries, it was determined that the top layer of ice was too thick for the roof rake to do the job. The top ice layer had to be hammered and broken-up with the raking tool before the all the ice and snow could be raked off. To clear the roof, every square foot of ice had to be hammered with the long-handled raking tool. After 9 straight hours of hammering, hammering, hammering and pulling the accumulated ice and snow, the roof was finally cleared of its accumulated burden.

The tools and ladders were put away and a pat on the back was applied for a job well done. Time for hot cocoa.

The next day told a different story. Both hands were sore and swollen. The right more than the left. What had happened? Thick padded winter gloves had been worn to protect the hands from the vibration and shock of hammering. However, those well-padded gloves had not provided sufficient protection. Additional shock and vibration protection, or many rest breaks should have been taken to protect the hands.

We in the rock hobby know what we need to do to be safe – but is that enough? Are we always doing enough to protect our body parts, the people collecting minerals beside us, activity when using the 24” slab saw, or carrying that load as we set up for a show? There are many instances where we may be nudging the edge of being safe and where it might be wise to be extra mindful of what we are doing.

With the possibility of a great deal of hammering shock to the hands, it may be wise to use nylon or leather padding on the hammer handle – along with thick gloves to protect one’s hands. There may be instances where not just ear-plugs, but ear-plugs and ear muffs together might be a better option to protect one’s hearing. There may be instances where not just safety glasses but wearing a safety eye shield should be considered as well. Even when one thinks they can carry a load, it may still be wise to have help.

How much safety is enough? In many instances it can be a judgement call as to how much safety is needed. Please judge wisely. Your safety matters. Oh, the hand swelling did go down, but it took a while. A lesson learned – again.

## UR on Labels

Ellery Barow

Two things –

Thing one: The Uniform Rules (UR) for judging competitive exhibit cases make it possible to fairly judge a case of micro minerals with another case of micro minerals, or a case of gem trees with another case of gem trees.

Thing two: The Uniform Rules suggest that a micro mineral label contain certain descriptive matter to help people viewing the exhibit to know the mineral’s name, location, and a few other informative bits.

What the UR don’t do is specify that labels need to be three inches by five inches, or one inch by three inches or any size at all. Determining the size of a label is up to the discretion of the exhibitor. When UR judges look at a case, they are looking at it with an eye as to what looks well proportioned, well laid out, neat, and attractive for the material being exhibited.

What information is placed on a mineral label? Might one include a mineral’s name, location, date found, chemical formula, associations, description, specific gravity, Mohs hardness, lattice constants, common colors, and a half a page of additional descriptive matter from a mineral field guide? All that might make for a very large label, or a small label with very fine print – neither of which would customarily be attractive in a mineral exhibit.

The UR will not specify the use of green paper labels, or pink paper labels, or white paper labels. The UR will not specify the font, or pitch size of the words on the labels. They will not specify the use of stands to hold the labels or laying them down flat. These, too, are at the discretion of the exhibitor.

If the font or styling of the letters used on the labels is fancy such as a script or intricate Old English letters, that might make the label difficult to read from three or four feet away. Such lettering might make it difficult to read the label even if one were close enough for the onlooker to have their nose pressed right tight to the exhibit case glass. The UR leaves letter styles to the choice of the exhibitor. A wise choice would be to make labels easy to read but not so large as to look out of place or proportion to the size of the minerals. There is no reason to exclude fancier fonts so long as one makes them easy to read from the usual case-viewing distance.

The UR do not specify if labels are to be in landscape or portrait orientation. It is customary to use landscape but it is not a rule. The important thing is to keep the exhibit labels attractive, informative, clean, neat and, easily readable.

Again, the UR provide a means to fairly compare similar categories of cases. The UR provide a good starting point for the preparation of a better exhibit case. There is a wide latitude as to what the exhibitor may use regarding the details, such as labeling. Indeed, it is often in the best interest of exhibit preparation to be relatively creative in the use of labels.

## **The Howe Amethyst Brooch**



Last year, when beginning to read Jane Perham's *Maine's Treasure Chest*, I did not expect to find it to be a page turner, but surprisingly it was! Learning the history of the quarries I've visited, not to mention the ones I'd like to visit, was captivating. Then I came to the chapter titled *People Who Made This History* and was again surprised to see the name George Howe. Being an amateur astronomer, I became aware of that name soon after moving to Maine because the Howe telescope is located in the Twitchell Observatory which now resides in Norway. I had no idea he was also a major mineral collector of the early days, which makes him the first "rocks n stars" guy of Norway!

Following the *People* chapter, Jane lists what she calls the *Superlative Pieces*, twelve "outstanding gemstones, jewelry and art objects which have been created from the mineral wealth of the Oxford County area." They include such well known objects as the Peary Necklace and the Hamlin Necklace, with some not so well

known ones, including perhaps the Brooch, all of which truly are superlative.

The photo below, which immediately caught my eye when perusing the images in *Maine's Treasure Chest*, was scanned from the book. Reading that George had the brooch made, for his mother, entirely with material he collected in Oxford County, it became, to me, the most superlative piece of all. The amethyst, which he collected on Pleasant Mountain, was faceted by Knox Bickford of Norway (Maine), the fresh water pearls were found in the Cold, Crooked and Nezinscot Rivers, while the gold was panned from the East Branch of the Swift.

Naturally my hope was to see the real thing, but I soon found out the photo was taken sometime in the 1950s, after it was lost somewhere around Faneuil Hall! Surely someone soon noticed it and picked it up, so hopefully someone has it, someone who has no idea what it is.

If you have any information on this wonderful piece of jewelry, please send an email to [rocksnstars@gmail.com](mailto:rocksnstars@gmail.com). The stone is thought to be about 7 carats but it could be larger.

Thank you.

Tom Hoffelder, President  
Oxford County Mineral & Gem Association

## AFMS Endowment Fund:

By Larry Huffman

Just in case you did not see my article from last month, I am selling tickets for the AFMS Endowment Fund. Tickets are reasonably priced at 5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00. I will be selling at the convention! Or you can send me a self-addressed envelope, with a check made payable to AFMS and I will send you the tickets purchased. I can be reached at [ldhuff314@gmail.com](mailto:ldhuff314@gmail.com) if you need my mailing address.

Also, if you or your club would consider to donate a specimen of a value of \$75.00 and a weight limit of 5 pounds, I will be happy to accept them at the convention as well.

You can also contact me, send me via email a photograph of the item and I will provide you with a shipping address.

Please consider supporting the Endowment Fund!

## Auction time!

Hi all-

Yes, it is that time in which I ask clubs and their members if they have any donations to be made to the EFMLS Auction, which will be held at the Convention's show on Saturday at 2:00pm.

If you are planning on attending, which I hope you all are, then bring the donation to the convention and please give it to me by Friday's Annual Meeting. If you do not plan to attend but you are interested in donation, please email me at [ciervo.neary@gmail.com](mailto:ciervo.neary@gmail.com) with the donation item so that I can register it on the log, and I will provide you with an address where it should be sent.

What can be donated – anything related to the hobby! Rocks, minerals, fossils, gemstones, beading, lapidary equipment and bools to name a few.

The money raised from the auction is used to fund the Eastern Foundation Fund. The interest earned from the endowment is used to help fund various federation activities.

Hopefully – you will be able to attend the auction! It is a great deal of fun and you can walk away with some really good stuff!

Cheryl Neary



## We're off to see the wizard – oops! I mean the convention...

By Cheryl Neary



Yes, plan on attending the EFMLS's 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting and Convention being hosted by The Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse: July 7 -9<sup>th</sup>

Cheryl Brown, Show Chairperson and her group have been busy trying to arrange everything, so that this convention is as enjoyable as the past conventions held in Syracuse.

Just a reminder, Syracuse is in Central New York. There are several interstates that intersect the Syracuse region and there is an airport. I am informing you of this because it is centrally located within the state of New York, so basically 5-6 hour ride for most New Yorkers from the farthest destination! With I-81 and I-90 running through the Syracuse area, most out-of-staters should have no problem arriving in the city and the host hotel – Holiday Inn. ( See more information from Cheryl brown – Show Chair). If you prefer to fly in – I am sure if you notify either Cheryl Brown or myself, we can arrange to have a

ride to the host hotel and convention-unless, of course, you decide you want to rent a vehicle and explore the area of central New York!

Syracuse, is noted for salt! Jesuit missionary, Father Simon LeMoynein 1654 first reported salty brine springs surrounding the southern end of what became known as the Salt Lake, and today known as Onondaga Lake after the Onondaga native people.

Onondaga Lake is a fresh water lake near the Finger Lakes, but it is not traditionally counted as one of the Finger Lakes. The Onondaga Lake is a dimictic lake. What that means is that the freshwater body's difference in temperature between the surface and bottom layers is negligible, allowing the lake's water to circulate vertically. Generally, the mixing of the waters occur during the spring and autumn. Other US lakes that are examples of dimictic lakes are Lake Mendota, Madison, Wisconsin and Lake Superior – the largest freshwater lake in the work by surface area; third largest by volume and one of the Great Lakes.

Syracuse is known as the "Salt City" and during the 19<sup>th</sup> century the springs provided salt to most of the country. In the 1740's it was reported that one gallon of water could be boiled down to one pound of salt. Where did the salt originate? Most of the area of Central NY was an inland sea, over 10-million years ago.

If you have the time while in Syracuse take a ride to Ithaca, NY. Ithaca is located to the southwest of Syracuse and is approximately 70 minutes by car – roughly 60 miles. I highly recommend you visit the Museum of the Earth, while visiting at least one of the many gorges found in the city with a logo Ithaca is Gorges! and it is gorgeous too!

Plan on staying to at least Tuesday so that you can plan on attending the field trip on Monday. Cheryl Brown has negotiated the fee down at least 40% - so this is a perfect opportunity to mine for Herkimers. If you attended the convention last year in Harrisburg, Bill Stephens did a wonderful presentation about this mining area. So if you want to go- you need to attend the annual meeting and convention. Don't miss out on this opportunity!

## **CLUB ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR (CROY)**

Ellery Borow

The Ordinary CROY

AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year (CROY) articles often mention a club's best program chairperson, best treasurer, best program organizer, or best refreshment cupcake maker being honored and named as a club's very own Club Rockhound of the Year. But what about the other dedicated and important members of a club?

Please permit me to relate a personal experience here. I have visited quite a number of various club shows, meetings, picnics and so on. On a great many of those occasions I have noted that a particular member of the club appears to be their go-to person. That go-to person has always appeared to be kind, thoughtful, knowledgeable, patient, willing to help, supportive, relaxed in difficult situations, offers humor to quiet a stressful time, remained unflappable, and was skillful in dealing with people when the occasional temper flares. That person may or may not be the absolute best at some task or other, but that person sure deserves to be honored as an invaluable member of any club. It would not be in the least surprising that your club also has such a go-to person. Please, when your club selects an honoree for your club CROY honoree, please do consider your go-to person as a potential CROY honoree.

To participate in the CROY program a club chooses their honoree, prepares a brief 70-word writeup describing their good works, and sends the information to me with the name of the club, the name of the honoree and the name and title of the person sending in the information. The EFMLS CROY committee will do the rest and have the honoree's name and effort mentioned in the pages of the EFMLS and AFMS newsletters.

Clubs may send in one honoree's name per year (or two if a couple) and one Junior member's name. Next year a club may select and send in another name. Most all clubs have a bevy of exceptional candidates for their CROY honor. They just need to exemplify the good work and spirit of volunteering excellence that helps the club in some way.

We hope to hear from you as surely your club has such dedicated volunteers. Clubs would not manage as well as they do without them.

**Deadline for the April 2023 Issue of the EFMLS News is March 15, 2023.**

**Send to Dan Imel (lapidry@aol.com)**

*Dan Imel, Editor, EFMLS News*

## SHOWS AND SWAPS

If you would like to see your club show, swap or other public event listed here, please send your information to the editor by the tenth of the month preceding the event or earlier.

**March 4-5 2023** Lapidary & Mineral Society of Central CT Show & Sale Francis T. Maloney High School, 121 Gravel Street, Meriden, CT 06450 Times: Saturday 9:30-5, Sunday 10-4 <http://www.lmscc.org/>

**March 4-5 2023** – 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Earth Science Gem and Mineral Show sponsored by the Delaware Mineralogical Society, Double Tree by Hilton, 4727 Concord Pike (Rt. 202), Wilmington, DE 19803, Saturday 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM, Sunday 7 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Seniors \$5, Adults (18-59) \$6, Juniors (12-17) \$3, Scouts in uniform and children under 12 free when accompanied by a paying adult. Mineral, lapidary and fossil exhibits; raffles; children's booth; plus dealers of minerals fossils, gems, jewelry and lapidary supplies. Contact Christine Verdi, [1DMS.President@gmail.com](mailto:1DMS.President@gmail.com); Information and Discount Coupons, [www.DMSrocks.org](http://www.DMSrocks.org); Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/events/1270276300375569/?ref=newsfeed>

**March 10-11, 2023** - 47th Annual Micromount Symposium hosted by the Leidy Micromount Society. Two Day event: Friday March 10, 2023, noon to 6pm & Saturday, March 11th, 2023, 9am to 6pm. Same NEW location: Advent Lutheran Church, 45 Worthington Mill Rd, Richboro, Pa. 18954 Two Speakers: Friday- Brittany A. Cymes, Ph.D. TOPIC: Microscopy of Solar Wind Particles Trapped in Lunar Surface Minerals. Saturday - Robert A. Carlton, Ph.D. Topic: Mineral Analysis for the Micro-Mineral Collector Table space (for two days): \$25.00 & \$40.00 (full table, 6ft Visitor's Fee (no table) \$5.00 Friday & \$10.00 Saturday (includes lunch) Reservations/ Admission: Make checks payable to; Don McAlarnen, 916 Senator Rd, East Norriton, PA 19403 (610) 584-1364 Questions: Email: donmcarnen@outlook.com

**March 11-12, 2023** NY Mineralogical Club Spring Show, The School of Fashion Industries Gym; 3rd Floor 225 W. 24th Street, NYC, NY 10001 Times: Saturday 10-6, Sunday 11-5 <http://www.newyorkmineralogicalclub.org>

**March 18-19, 2023** - Buffalo Geological Society's 53rd Annual Gem-Mineral-Fossil Show at the Erie County Fairgrounds in the Grange, Market and New York State Police Buildings in Hamburg, NY, on Saturday, 9 am-7 pm and Sunday, 9 am-6 pm.

**March 18-19, 2023** - The annual GLMSMC Gem, Fossil and Mineral Show and Sale will be held on March 18th and 19th, at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds in Gaithersburg, MD. The fairgrounds are located at 16 Chestnut Street, Gaithersburg, MD. The show and sale runs from 10:00 am until 6:00 pm on Saturday, March 18th and from 11:00 am to 5:00PM on Sunday, March 19th.

**March 25-26, 2023** -- The 53rd Annual Che-Hanna Rock and Mineral Club will be held on March 25(9-5) and 26(10-4) at the Wysox Vol. Fire Hall, 111 Lake Rd., Wysox, PA. Admission adults - \$3.00, students - \$1.00, under 8 free. Contact Bob McGuire - 570-928-9238 [uvbob1942@gmail.com](mailto:uvbob1942@gmail.com)

**March 25-26, 2023** - Franklin County Rock and Mineral Club Show - Venue: Eugene C. Clarke Jr Community Center, 235 South 3rd St., Chambersburg, PA 17201 Exit 18 off I-81, West on Rt. 30, Left at 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. Saturday 10am to 5pm, Sunday 10am to 4pm. Website: <https://www.facebook.com/Franklin-County-Rock-and-Mineral-Club-1601767103396099/>

**April 1-2, 2023** - 48th Annual Show New Haven Mineral Club - Annual Gathering of Rock Hounds and Collectors - Minerals - Gems - Fossils – Jewelry - 21 Top Notch Dealers! Saturday 9:30AM - 5:00PM Sunday 10AM - 4:30PM, Amity Middle School, 100 Ohman Avenue, Orange, CT 06477

**April 22, 2023** - **32nd Annual Chesapeake Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show** Saturday, 10 AM – 4 PM, **Howard County Fairgrounds**, 2210 Fairgrounds Rd. West Friendship, MD 21794 **Free Admission and Parking**, Minerals, Original Jewelry, Fossils, Rough & Cut Gemstones, Silent Auctions, Door Prizes. Free minerals for kids [www.chesapeakegemandmineral.org](http://www.chesapeakegemandmineral.org). **Directions:** From Baltimore take I-70 to Rt. 32 south; Turn right on Rt. 144 west Fairgrounds Road is half a mile on the right. From Washington area – Routes 29 or 95 North to Rt. 32 west/north; turn left on Rt. 144 west- Fairgrounds road is a half of a mile on the right.

**May 15-21, 2023** -- Wildacres 2023 session. Mark your calendar. More information will be in the coming issues of *EFMLS News*.

**May 20-21, 2023** - Cape Atlantic Rock Hounds Spring Gem and Mineral Show. Sat 9-5, Sunday 10-4. Outdoors, Rain or Shine. Free to the public. GPS: 2653 Cologne Avenue, Mays Landing, NJ 08330. Questions: Bob 856-207-1381

**June 3-4, 2023** –Orange County Mineral Society Annual Mineral, Gem, Fossil and Jewelry Show, June 3 - 10 am to 5 pm, June 4, - 10 am to 4 pm. Museum Village 1010 Route 17 M, Monroe

**July 7-9, 2023** – EFMLS Annual Convention in Syracuse, NY hosted by the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, NY. Mark your calendar now. More information will be forthcoming in 2023.

**August 3-6, 2023** – AFMS and Northwest Federation of Mineral Societies Annual Convention, Billings, Montana.

## REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS (RVP'S)

<b>Region 1</b>	Ellery Borow	1-207-547-3154	rocknellery@fairpoint.net
<b>Region 2</b>	Cheryl Neary	1-516-449-5341	ciervo.neary@gmail.com
<b>Region 3</b>	RJ Harris		roqfreq@rjharris.com
<b>Region 4</b>	Bill Stephens	1-302- 540-3453	bstephens@stephensv.com
<b>Region 5</b>	Open		
<b>Region 6</b>	Larry Huffman	1-828-612-4469	ldhuff314@embarqmail.com
<b>Region 7</b>	Joe Cooper	1-706-499-9322	jcooper@hallcounty.org
<b>Region 8</b>	K.C. Foster	1-561-523-4600	<a href="mailto:katrinkaper@yahoo.com">katrinkaper@yahoo.com</a>

## EFMLS COMMITTEES AND CHAIRPERSONS

<b>AFMS Endowment Fund</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	Larry Huffman	828-612-4469	ldhuff314@embarqmail.com
<b>AFMS Scholarship Foundation</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	Steve Weinberger	410-833-7926	cscrystals2@gmail.com
<b>AFMS Ways And Means</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	Cheryl Neary	516-449-5341	ciervo.neary@gmail.com
<b>All American Award</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	Open		
<b>Auction</b>	Cheryl Neary	516-499-5341	ciervo.neary@gmail.com
<b>Audit/Review</b>	Open		
<b>Boundaries</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	Open		
<b>Budget And Finance</b>	Bill Stephens	302-540-3453	bstephens@stephenv.com
<b>Bulletin Editors Advisory</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	Lucy Jackson	631-289-2328	bnl1@optonline.net
<b>Bylaws</b>	Bill Stephens	302-540-3453	bstephens@stephenv.com
<b>Club Rockhound Of The Year</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	Ellery Borow	207-547-3154	rocknellery@fairpoint.net
<b>Conservation &amp; Legislation</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	Bill Stephens	302-540-3453	bstephens@stephensenv.com
<b>Convention Advisory</b>	Cheryl Neary	516-449-5341	ciervo.neary@gmail.com
<b>Convention Show Chair</b>	Cheryl Brown	315-487-6009	gmssrocks@gmail.com
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<b>Each One Teach One Award</b>	Betsy Oberheim	717-469-2243	Aoberheim3@comcast.net
<b>Eastern Foundation Fund</b>	Open		
<b>Historian</b>	Open		
<b>Insurance Coordinator (Acting)</b>	Bill Stephens	302-540-3453	bstephens@stephenv.com
<b>Junior Activities</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	Betsy Oberheim	717-469-2243	Aoberheim3@comcast.net
<b>Legal Advisory</b>	Open		
<b>Librarian</b>	Janice Kowalski	516-319-8883	janicekw@Hotmail.com
<b>Long Range Planning</b>	Open		
<b>Operating Procedures</b>	Open		
<b>Parliamentarian</b>	RJ Harris	717-686-1600	rjharris@rjharris.com
<b>Safety</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	Ellery Borow	207-547-3154	rocknellery@fairpoint.net
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<b>Supplies</b>	Ellery Borow	207-547-3154	rocknellery@fairpoint.net
<b>Uniform Rules</b>	Open		
<b>Ways And Means</b>	Open		
<b>Webmaster (Acting)</b>	Bill Stephens	302-540-3453	bstephens@stephenv.com
<b>Web Site Contest</b>	Open		
<b>Wildacres Workshop Committee - Staff</b>	Steve Weinberger, Chair	410-833-7926	cscrystals2@gmail.com
	Mark Kucera, Director	914-423-8360	mark_j_kucera@yahoo.com
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	Cheryl Brown	315-487-6009	gmssrocks@gmail.com

<sup>(1)</sup> EFMLS Representative to American Federation (AFMS) committee.