

EFMLS NEWS

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



IDEAS IN GROWING A CLUB THAT WORK FOR US

by Bob Livingston, EFMLS Past President, 2002

Three years ago I penned three articles intended to help struggling clubs make a turnaround to avoid in some cases "The End." Hopefully within those, some of near 20 tips did it for some of you. [You can download the articles by going to <www.amfed.org/efmls/newsletters.htm> and clicking on Jan-Feb, March and April 2008 newsletter issues.]

This article will provide a few current ideas from my home club, Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse -- a large club with over 150 members. We just concluded our Gem and Mineral show in July and without trying at all, landed 30 new members. Think of it, that is over a 16% increase. Plus if a normal year unfolds, we will add another 20 in the course of our meetings.

Here's why we think we have great success when some others are not doing well. First we had an enterprising member, begin a "Beading Group" and that generated unbelievable new interest three or four years ago. Beads are truly HOT. Next, we have more than the ordinary spread of food with our meetings, which members take turns providing. For two years now we have provided a "Learning Center" at our show where anyone attending can learn about any of 8 - 10 topics of interest ranging from hour long classes to a vast array of speakers. Lastly, we have increased our focus



on youth and upgraded our website: <gmss.us>.

Between that, and a lot of educational and interesting exhibits (35 in 2010), it just naturally creates interest in folks wanting to join. We accommodate them by taking membership applications at our show, but we do not purposely try to get sign ups.

Jumping back to my original series, waiting till a club is "on the ropes" is almost always too late. But if you could use some extra growth and new blood in your membership, why not TRY one or two of the ideas touched on above. Like our NY Lottery slogan -- "Hey, you never know" till you try.

ON THE INSIDE

Summer Summation.....	2
Spend A Couple Hours.....	3
Eastern Foundation Fund.....	3
Regional VP's Elected.....	4
Fall Greetings.....	4
2nd VP Appointed.....	4
The Summer Help.....	5
Plan Ahead!.....	5
Syracuse Club Rockhound....	5
Directory Updates.....	6
Safety First - And Last.....	6
All American Award.....	7
AFMS Ed. Contest Results.....	8
Gems Along the Erie Canal...9	
AFMS Convention Pics.....	10
EFMLS Committees.....	11
EFMLS Club Shows.....	12



EFMLS OFFICERS

2009 – 2010



LOREN PATTERSON
PRESIDENT

<lorenpatterson@gmss.us>

BETSY OBERHEIM

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

<aoberheim3@comcast.net>

R. J. HARRIS

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

<roqfreq@rjharris.com>

CATHY PATTERSON

SECRETARY

<cathypatterson@gmss.us>

LOU BUDELL

TREASURER

<labudell@windstream.net>

LA REENE HEATH

ASSISTANT TREASURER

CAROLYN WEINBERGER

EDITOR

PO Box 302
GLYNDON, MD 21071-0302
410-833-7926

<cscrystals2@verizon.net>

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SUMMER SUMMATION

by Loren Patterson, EFMLS President

There were many interesting things happening this summer and I didn't want to write about "What happened on my summer vacation" in fear that no one would take me seriously. So, try to see this as things I thought you should know about that took place during the last few months even though they are disconnected events.



On the fossil side, I received an email from one of our Scholarship Award graduate students who is looking for some help from the Federation to find EFMLS club members that collect prehistoric whale material (especially teeth) with special interest in sites between Virginia and South Carolina. His name is Kwasi Gilbert and he needs fossil whale material for his research. Please contact me if you know of anyone who could be of help.

At the 2010 Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse club show, I had a surprise



visitor. Jack Hietpas, another of our AFMS Scholarship Award recipients came to the show with his advisor to thank the Federation for his award and stated that he is very appreciative to be honored in this way. Jack is on the left in the photo.

During the AFMS convention and show June 17-20 hosted by the North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society in Whittier, California there were many complex and beautiful minerals available to admire and purchase. I found the agates from Argentina irresistible and the petrified wood exhibit was easily the best we have seen. The variety and choices of minerals available on the west coast are tempting me to plan a return visit sooner than I thought. We also enjoyed the La Brea Tar Pits and recommend this for anyone interested in ice age mammals. The museum has a huge collection of partial and complete skeletons of the many animals recovered from the tar pits.

In March this year, the EFMLS Convention was held in Newark, Delaware and I was so involved in the business meeting I never found the time to read my March issue of Scientific American magazine. It was lost for a while in a side pocket of my luggage and only recently surfaced. I discovered in it a very interesting article entitled "Evolution of Minerals" by Robert Hazen.

Dr. Hazen's focus on recent research has led to a startling conclusion. "Most mineral species owe their existence to life". The article goes into some depth outlining five snapshots or ages of our planet showing the different numbers of minerals evolving through time. The concept is that as life develops on a world the minerals become more and more complex and today over 4400 known mineral species can be found on earth. With this information, one could determine whether life was occurring on another world if there were complex minerals present there. If you can find a copy at your local library, it's a good read.

Get out there and enjoy the hobby!

SPEND A FUN COUPLE OF HOURS!

by Mary Bateman, BEAC Chair

Your help is needed. Judges are an important part of the annual bulletin editors contest and we're already in the process of gathering judges for the 2011 contest (2010 bulletins). Last year, it was a difficult task to find enough judges. We are asking for your help -- if you know someone who would make a good judge, please forward their name and contact information to Mary Bateman <mbateman1@verizon.net> or 703.521.4614.



This month's column is an early heads up on the 2011 contest and awards banquet for the 2010 newsletter entries.

This summer has been an unusually hot one and a good one to do indoor activities. Was one of your activities beginning the process of going through your newsletters identifying articles, drawings, poetry, etc. that you want to submit for the BEAC contest? We hope so because the earlier you start the process, the less stress later.

The 2010 results of the contest will be announced and awards presented during the EFMLS/AFMS Convention in Syracuse, New York on July 10, 2011 at Breakfast with the Editors. This is about 10 months away and there is a lot of work to be done. Entries for the contest will be due January 5, 2011. The forms for the 2011 (2010 bulletins) contest should be up on the website by the time you receive this newsletter.

EASTERN FOUNDATION FUND NEWS

by Fran Sick, EFF Chair

Many thanks to **The Delaware Mineralogical Society, Inc.** for their recent contribution to the Eastern Foundation Fund which was substantial and assures that they will be included in the growing list of contributors who will be honored for their support at the Eastern Federation 2011 Convention.

Here in the Eastern United States, at least in my area, it has been a hot, dry summer (something we have not seen in awhile.) It has been perfect for our favorite summer activities -- picnics, travel, barbecues and most important, rockhounding. But I am sorry to report that it has been a very slow summer for the Eastern Foundation Fund. However, now that the autumn season is closing in, and we are reluctantly returning to indoor activities and meetings, I know that I will begin hearing from many of our Eastern Federation clubs with your annual club donation or memorial contribution in remembrance of those members who are no longer with us.

Remember, all donations are acknowledged with a letter of thanks sent to the contributor, and memorial donations are always acknowledged with a letter to loved ones advising of the remembrance and offering condolences from the federation in your name. And all donations, whether from a club or it's individual members, are included in the club total when determining Level of Giving Awards.

I miss hearing from all of you. Please write soon! (Oh, by the way, don't forget to stick a check made payable to the EFF in your letter.)

Please send your donations to me at PO Box 5, Dushore, PA 18614



ter. They are being uploaded to the website early this year to give you ample time to familiarize yourself and/or review the criteria, fill out the forms and submit your January through December 2010 newsletters, articles, junior articles, poetry, etc. entries by January 5, 2011. The website for the forms is <www.amfed.org/efmls/beac.htm>.

If you do not have access to a computer or have difficulty downloading the files, please let me know and I will e-mail (or mail) them to you.

With the AFMS awards being given out at the same meeting as

the EFMLS awards, we would like to have a good showing from the EFMLS editors both in terms of the number of entries and attendance at the Breakfast. Sooooo...(1) get your entries in by January 5th and (2) mark your calendar and plan to attend the convention in Syracuse July 8-10, 2011 and stay for Breakfast with the Editors on Sunday, July 10, 2011.

More information and hints on the contest will be forthcoming before the deadline. Information on the convention will appear in future issues of the newsletter.

REGIONAL VP'S ELECTED

by Betsy Oberheim, EFMLS 1st VP

Unlike the regular officers of the EFMLS, Regional Vice Presidents are elected by the clubs that they serve. Terms are for a two year period, and holders of the position may be



re-elected for any number of terms.

Regional VP's are a wonderful resource for you and your club. Many are willing to come to your meetings and give a program and/or be a sounding board for your club if there is a problem that you need help resolving. They serve as the liaison between your club and the Eastern Federation and, if they cannot answer your questions, can refer you to the person within EFMLS who probably can.

EFMLS has eight Regional VP's with four elected every other year. Terms of office run concurrent with that of the EFMLS officers - November 1 - October 31. The geographic boundaries of the regions are:

I - New England - Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island

II - Metro. New York - Dutchess, Rockland and Westchester Counties plus New York City, Long Island and New Jersey.

III - New York (except metro), Pennsylvania and Ohio

IV - Maryland, D.C., Delaware, Virginia

V - West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee

VI - North and South Carolina

VII - Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi

VIII - Florida

Most of the elections for VP in the even numbered regions have been completed with the following results:

Region II - Michael Kessler

Region IV - Carl Miller

Region VI - vacant

Region VIII - Michelle Renné

Congratulations to those elected by the clubs within their region. Although their term of office officially begins on November 1, feel free to contact them should you have a question.

In addition, Kim Cochran has been elected to fill the vacancy in Region VII. Kim's term of office begins immediately.

FALL GREETINGS TO ALL!!

by Hazel Remaley, EOTO Chair

I hope that you've all had a super summer. Lots of fun in the sun, especially since we here in the east have had record high temperatures.



I would like to take a different twist on my messages for the next several months. So, be sure to read all issues to keep up with my tips on what it takes to nominate that special man, woman or couple for the EACH ONE TEACH ONE Award.

I will be breaking down the word TEACH. This month I will start with the letter T. I think of TALENT. It takes a special TALENT to be able to write articles for the club newsletter or present a program to the local library or school. The sharing of that kind of TALENT with others is one of the reasons that a club should nominate a member for the award.

I'll continue this next month with a word that begins with an E. So, stay tuned for the next installment.

The entry form will remain the same as it has been for the last few years. I have yet to determine a cut-off day for your entries, so I will ask our editor to publish the form next month. The 2011 EFMLS convention is in Syracuse NY in July, so you have a good deal of time to observe your fellow members and their contributions to your club and hobby.

Contact me if you have questions.

Hazel Remaley
3298 Centerville Rd
Gillett, PA 16925
570-888-7544

<northridge5@verizon.net>

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT APPOINTED

from Loren Patterson, EFMLS President

When elections for 2011 officers were held during the annual meeting in Delaware this past March, there was no candidate for 2nd Vice President. I'm pleased to announce that the Executive Board has selected and approved the appointment of Cheryl Neary to fill the position beginning on November 1. Cheryl is a member of the both the Island Rockhounds and Suffolk Gem & Mineral Club and is the current bulletin editor for Island Rockhounds.

THE SUMMER HELP

by Ellery Borow, EFMLS Club Rockhound of the Year Chair

People appear as if by magic looking for work each summer. Clubs often experience the same phenomenon. Members suddenly appear and volunteer to help with shows, field trips, and club's summer picnics. Other members can be counted on to consistently volunteer their time and energy to support club's activities no matter what time of year. Whatever the situation, clubs have a way to recognize the superior effort their members make to promote the hobby by nominating them as Club Rockhound of the Year. Recognizing a member's effort is a great and very public way of thanking folks for their support.

As summer edges into fall, now while it's fresh in ones mind, is a great time to make your club's submission. The toughest part of the process of making a submission is often the part of choosing which of the many great candidates is the best choice. You can do this, plus you can submit the name of another person next year....and the year after that. Please don't delay, we need to acknowledge the wonderful effort made by our members.

The fine print – as a reminder, each club may submit one honoree (or a couple) each year. Clubs are also encouraged to submit the name of a junior member as well for their ACROY honoree. All we need is a brief (75 word or so) write-up telling why your person is so special to your club and we'll take it from here.

Please send your submission for ACROY for me using the contact information on page 11 of this newsletter. Please note that my e-mail is no longer in service, but sending your nomination using an envelope

and postage stamp is still well worth the extra effort to have your members

recognized. Also remember that any member of the club may submit the name of another member (or couple) for recognition. Should we receive more than one submission during a calendar year, we'll hold the second for the following year.

Thank you for your help.

You'll find the submission from one club elsewhere on this page.



PLAN AHEAD

Things to do during the dog days of summer...

- Keep documentation, take photographs, plan events to include in the All American folio for this year. This is a terrific way to take stock of your club activities and share them with others.

- Look at the BEAC score sheets on the web and shore up any areas that are missing in your club bulletin. It's not hard, and you'll have a far better bulletin for your members each month.

- Start thinking about a nominee for Each One Teach One.

- Submit the name of a member for Club Rockhound of the Year.

CLUB ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR

from Ellery Borow



The Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, Inc. proudly honors **Carrie Gannett** as its Rockhound of the Year. Several years ago Carrie created "The Bead Group" a subgroup to our mineral club. Her long time interest and expertise in creating beautiful, beaded jewelry was shared with a few interested club members. Over time this small group turned into a formidable size!

She has a knack for teaching others and has offered her time in her home to have beading lessons, often teaching new and potential members her skills. She was responsible for inviting interesting speakers to the monthly meetings. Programs on all facets of this part of the hobby were offered as well. Carrie spearheaded developing judging criteria for the club's annual competition long before the AFMS Uniform Rules for beading came into effect. Her own talks have included mineral information and how those mineral characteristics relate to creating artwork of quality.

Carrie is a constant promoter of all club functions especially our annual fund raising show. This has brought in many new club members interested in minerals and fossils as well as beading. From the Bead Group have come several club officers and leaders. Because she has enhanced the club in so many ways we are pleased to recognize Carrie Gannett as Rockhound of the Year.

Cathy Patterson

DIRECTORY UPDATES/ CORRECTIONS

Page 7:

B. Jay Bowman's phone number should be 580-761-5966

Page 42: AFMS 1st Vice President is now Doug True

Doug True, 2622 Broadwater Ave; Billings, MT 59102-4610. 406-670-0506. <dtruefossils@yahoo.com>

Page 49:

Tampa Bay Mineral & Science Club

PO Box 13166; Tampa, FL 33681.

PRESIDENT: Carolee **Boyles**, **PO Box 13166**; Tampa, FL 33681. 813-831-1944. <caroleeboylesmediagroup.com>

VICE PRES: Michael **Anolfo** - correct e-mail is <pup1gator7@tampabay.rr.com>.

SECRETARY: Hilda Ygartua - phone number is **813-677-3066**.

TREASURER: Barbara **Goetschius** - correct e-mail is <bgoets42@yahoo.com>

EDITOR: Jeannie Krantz <thecoralgeode@gmail.com>

SHOW: October 23 - 24, 2010. International Showmen's Club; Riverview, FL.

SAFETY FIRST AND LAST

by Jim Doran, EFMLS Safety Chair



WOW!

I had the opportunity to see a stellar example of an award winning club yearbook created by Judith Washburn at the June AFMS/CFMS convention and show in California. What a masterpiece! It was filled with so many photos, articles, and all kinds of documentation of how active her club is and what they do in their community. Judith did a marvelous job scrapbooking using nice papers, cutouts, and lettering.



I understand several clubs out west are much more involved in doing these yearbooks and have several entries sent in to the AFMS judges. We in the east need to rally and send in ours too! It will make you feel proud and will show off your club's doings. All it takes is a little time.

Support Your Hobby Troops!

This month I'll outline Section 4 of the AACA devoted to Support for AFMS, regional Federations, and other clubs. This section is worth 20 points.

Do you have members of your club who are EFMLS committee chairs or have served on or chaired EFMLS committees in the past? Do you have now or had a member of your club serve as an officer of the EFMLS or AFMS? You might wish to list those members, the committee or office they served on and show photos or articles of these honored folks. They are serving their hobby well by becoming involved in the larger Federation. Want to know

what those committees are? Check your EFMLS Directory.

Did any of your members attend a Federation convention or show? How many? Were photos taken? Can you document their participation by showing a report written about it in your club bulletin?

Do your members support Federation Scholarships or Endowment Funds? In our club we "pass the Kitty" at each meeting and ask for a donation of 25¢ if a member is not wearing their name badge and/or \$1 if their birthday falls within the month of the meeting. These monies are sent to the EFMLS for the Scholarship Fund. We also sell Endowment Fund tickets when there's a drawing.

Did any of your members give a program for other clubs? What was it? Who gave it? How many attended? Can you document with a photo or newsletter article?

Do your members attend other club's shows, field trips, or swaps? Are there photos? Show your support for other clubs' events by writing a short article in your newsletter. Thank you notes, certificates, and reports all can be used as documentation. Do you exchange bulletins with other clubs? Do you use their articles in your

own newsletter? Add evidence of this in your yearbook in this section.

Where we've been on our yearbook making "trip" -

- ♦Club Information – The Basics (no points) EFMLS News, January 2010
- ♦Offerings to Club Members and Guests (25 points) EFMLS News, May 2010
- ♦Publicity and Publications (15 points) EFMLS News June-July 2010

Where we're headed:

- ♦Community Relations (15 points)
- ♦Government Agency and Legislative Relations (10 points)
- ♦Overall Format and Presentation (15 points)

For more information see

<www.amfed.org/AACA.htm>

Click on pdf application. Haven't started yet?! Start right now! You have several months of opportunities to include documentation in your yearbook. See past newsletters, December 2009 – July 2010, for articles. Not wired?? I'll send you the forms.

Contact-

Cathy Patterson

7725 Van Buren Road

Baldwinsville, NY 13027

315-638-8817

<cathypatterson@verizon.net>

We're in this together!

ROY "CHIP" CLARK JR.

Chip Clark, son of EFMLS Past President Roy Clark (1961) passed away quite suddenly on June 13, 2010. At the time of his death he was the Sr. Scientific and Studio Photographer at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History. He gave many presentations to local area gem and mineral clubs and his outstanding photographs graced the pages of many publications.

EFMLS /AFMS BEAC RESULTS

from Mary Bateman, BEAC Chair

As I hope you're aware, the top three entries from the regional federation bulletin contest are sent on to the AFMS for a second round of evaluation. Entries for large, small and mini bulletins as well as new editors were all forwarded. In addition, articles in the features, poetry, juniors, original and advanced articles were also sent in. There were also a few "direct entries" -- bulletins and articles by editors and authors who had won EFMLS trophies during the past two years who were no eligible to enter the EFMLS competition.

The results, listed below, were announced during Breakfast with the Editors at the AFMS convention in California this past June.

Original Adult Articles:

9. Growing Crystals Part 2

by Robert Winsor

Northern Virginia Mineral Club

From: *The Mineral Newsletter*, 1/09

10. Adventure to NASA's Johnson Space Center – Houston, Texas

by Kathy Hrechka

Northern Virginia Mineral Club

From: *The Mineral Newsletter*, 9/09

Honorable Mention

Can Rockhounding Improve Various Skills?

by Don Kauffman

Central PA Rock & Mineral Club

From: *Rock Buster News*, 6/09

Adult Original Articles - Advanced

5. A Close Encounter of a Different Kind

by Daryl Serafin

Maryland Geological Society

From: *The Rostrum*, 9/09

8. Tiny Diamonds Hint at Past Catastrophes

by Vivien Gornitz

New York Mineralogical Club

From: *The Bulletin of the New York Mineralogical Club*, 3/09

Honorable Mention

Rare Specimen of a Late Paleocene Pinaceous Cone

by Lucy Kuizon

Maryland Geological Society

From: *The Rostrum*, 11/09

The K-T Mass Extinction Event

by Stan Balducci

Richmond Gem & Mineral Society

From: *The Collecting Bag*, 1/09

Junior Articles – Under age 12

4. Treasures from the Smoky Mountain Region

by Jaret Williams (age 9)

Southern Maryland Rock & Mineral Club

From: *Rock Talk*, 3/09

Written Features

8. Collecting Pyrite at Navajun, Spain

by Bill Gilbert

Richmond Gem & Mineral Society

From: *The Collecting Bag*, 11/09

9. Facetor's Corner

by Steve Weinberger

Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore

From: *Gem Cutters News*, 1/09

Honorable Mention

The Big One That Didn't Get Away

by Jeff Taylor

Richmond Gem & Mineral Society

From: *The Collecting Bag*, 8/09

Adult Poetry

2. The Geology of Newsletter Editing

by Jim Stedman

Maryland Geological Society

From: *The Rostrum*, 11/09

5. A Tribute to Al Juhle

by Billy Beal

The Rock & Mineral Club of Lower

Bucks Co., Pennsylvania

From: *Rock Chatter*, 11/09

6. I am a Rock, a Rock Collector

by Ralph Gamba, Southern Maryland

Rock & Mineral Club (EFMLS)

From: *Rock Talk*, 2/09

Junior Poetry

6. Quartz

by Kailynn Gatto (age 9)

Mineral Minds

From: *A Mineral Minds Newsletter*, 11/09

7. Hungry, Hungry Me

by Gavin Rater (age 10)

Mineral Minds

From: *A Mineral Minds Newsletter*, 11/09

New Editors

2. The Mineral Newsletter, 6/09

Robert Winsor, Editor

Northern Virginia Mineral Club

3. The Collecting Bag, 6/09,

Barbara Hadley, Editor

Richmond Gem & Mineral Society

5. Crack 'N Cab, 9/09

Keith Gilmer, Editor

Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse

Mini Bulletins

4. The Conglomerate, 9/09

Robert Miller, Editor

Suffolk Gem & Mineral Club

Small Bulletins

8. The Rockhounder, 9/09

Wendell C. Mohr, Editor

Gem, Lapidary, & Mineral Society of

Montgomery County, MD

Honorable Mention

Rock Talk, 3/09

Jessica Thomson, Editor

Southern Maryland Rock & Mineral Club

Large Bulletins

5. Gem Cutters News, 12/09

Carolyn Weinberger, Editor

Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore

Honorable Mention

The Vug Examiner, 6/09

Edward Mattson, Editor

The Stamford Mineralogical Society

IT'S EASTERN'S TIME TO SHINE IN 2011

by Cathy Patterson, Show Chair

July 9-10, 2011

Gems Along the Erie Canal –
A Diamond Celebration

Gem & Mineral Society
of Syracuse (Host Club)
www.gmss.us

The pendulum swings the maximum as the big get-together in our hobby shifts from California to New York. Next July the focus once again will be on Syracuse site of the 2004 combined American and Eastern Federation annual convention and show. Syracuse and the Erie Canal region of the state have so much to offer our out of town guests. We hope you'll take advantage of all there is to see and do in our part of the state.

Over the next several months we will give you the low down on everything we can squeeze in regarding the big event we are calling "Gems Along the Erie Canal- A Diamond Celebration." After all, those coveted Herkimers are only a little over an hour east of Syracuse.

The meetings and food events will be at the headquarters hotel – the newly remodeled Ramada Inn on 1305 Buckley Road in Syracuse, NY (Exit 36 off New York Thruway, I-90) where we are holding a large block of rooms. The special rate is \$99 per day and includes a hot breakfast buffet. When reserving, mention that you are with the American or Eastern Federation convention and gem show group. Their phone number is 315-457-

8670 or <www.ramadasyracuse.com>for more information and photos. Other hotels are available in the area as well as camping space at the fairgrounds for you RVers. In the coming months you can go to the EFMLS website <www.amfed.org/efmls>to download information and forms you'll need if you want to get a jump on reservation. It is still early yet.



Complete listing of times and locations forthcoming in future articles. For your planning purposes, all events except the show will be at the Ramada. The preliminary 2011 schedule

is as follows:

Wednesday July 6

AFMS Rules Committee Social

Thursday July 7

AFMS annual meeting
AFMS Scholarship meeting
Luncheon
AFMS/EFMLS Cracker Barrel

Friday July 8

Exhibit set up (at the show)
EFMLS Annual Meeting

Saturday July 9

Show opens 10 AM – 6 PM
Awards Banquet

Sunday

Breakfast with the Editors
Show opens 10 AM – 4 PM.

The show building is air conditioned and will include 50+ retail dealers and 11 wholesalers. It is located in the huge Center of Progress Building at the New York State Fair-

grounds in Syracuse, Exit 7 off I-690 overlooking Onondaga Lake.

For kids there will be a straw draw, sluice mining, soapstone carving, beading, and gem tree making and wire wrap for the older kids. We have geared up for 100 educational displays and look to clubs and individuals around the country to share their wonderful collections of mineral and fossil specimens and jewelry creations for everyone to enjoy.

Next time we will tell you why you should not miss this exciting show and convention in an area of the country new to many of you. We will also let you in on more of what you can expect to find here at the show and the beautiful surrounding country side. Summer in Upstate New York State is stellar, not to be missed! In the meantime, dig around and decide what it is that you will bring to show off for your club and/or yourself to share for the benefit of all our visitors. We feel our club brings to Syracuse a unique "gift" of a weekend of the finest mineral and fossil exhibits to be found in one location in the east.



Along the Erie Canal

We're proud to be the host club in 2011!

EFMLS WELL REPRESENTED IN CALIFORNIA

by Carolyn Weinberger. Photos by Steve Weinberger

The 2010 AFMS Convention was hosted by the California Federation in mid-June. Although most of the Eastern delegation travelled 3,000+ miles each way, the long trip certainly was well worth our time and effort. Those we saw included Barbara Sky, Cathy and Loren Patterson, Jay Bowman, Matt and Jean Charsky and the two Weinbergers. These folks, plus the rest of the AFMS folks in attendance provided a wonderful week of fun and conversation.

While the east coast was sweltering with 90 degree temperatures, the LA area was enjoying sunny skies and temperatures in the upper 70's. The show, held at a small college in Whittier, proved to be a fun event with outstanding displays (56 in competition), a good selection of dealers, a large kids activity area, lectures, and more. One building alone contained a huge collection of petrified wood - all belonging to one individual!

Besides the usual convention activities -- meetings, cracker barrel, editors breakfast, luncheon, and awards banquet, our Eastern folks also got to see some of the sites - the La Brea Tar Pits, the gem and mineral collection at the Natural History Museum of LA County, Hollywood, TV show tapings, Beverly Hills, Rodeo Drive, Malibu and some of the beaches and more.

Barbara, Jay, Steve and Carolyn spent part of the show judging a few competitive exhibits while the rest spent their show time shopping.

Here are a few images to share from the convention. You missed a terrific time --- but there is always Syracuse in 2011. Lots closer to home!



"The Night Before Exam" carving on white marble (trophy winning carving!)



The Cracker Barrel was lots of fun



Barbara and Jay at the URC meeting



Matt, Loren and Cathy represented EFMLS



Jacaranda mimosaefolia



Two unique gem trees

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

Region I
Kathleen Collins
<kathleenc55@cox.net>

Region III
Hazel Remaley
<northridge5@verizon.net>

Region V
Judy Budnik
<wisoh@msn.com>

Region VII
Kim Cochran
770-979-8331

Region II
Michael Kessler
<quartz7228@aol.com>

Region IV
Dee Tinsley
<flydeetin@gmail.com>

Region VI
Doug Dover
<dodover@carolina.rr.com>

Region VIII
Michelle Renné
<pgrm4@aol.com>

EFMLS COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

AFMS Endowment Fund *
Carolyn Weinberger
<cscrystals2@verizon.net>

Convention Advisory
Matt Charsky
<Charsky.Matthew@epa.gov>

Supplies
Suzy Milligan
<smilligan@stny.rr.com>

Nominating (Elected committee)

Mary Bateman, Temporary Chair
<mbateman1@verizon.net>

AFMS Scholarship Foundation *
Bob Livingston
<gemguy@verizon.net>

Directory
Carolyn Weinberger
<cscrystals2@verizon.net>

Uniform Rules
Barbara Sky
<bskysky@aol.com>

Esther Dunn
334-774-2172

AFMS Ways & Means *
To be appointed

Each One Teach One
Hazel Remaley
<northridge5@verizon.net>

Ways & Means (EFMLS)
To be appointed

Barbara Fenstermacher
<bfenster2@bellsouth.net>

All American Award *
Cathy Bart-Patterson
cathypatterson@gmss.us

Eastern Foundation Fund
Fran Sick
<ednfran@epix.net>

Webmaster
Dan Imel
<lapidry@aol.com>

Bill Klose
<seagoatc@epix.net>

Auction
To be appointed

Historian
Susanna MacInnis
<sumacndeb@aol.com>

Wildacres Workshop Committee
Steve Weinberger, Chair
<cscrystals2@verizon.net>

Maxine Nicholas
<mmnicholas1@msn.com>

Audit
Donald Pitkin
<pitkind@earthlink.net>

Insurance Coordinator
Carl Miller
<kobold1@erols.com>

Mary Bateman
<mbateman1@verizon.net>

Reivan Zeleznik
<rzlapidary@yahoo.com>

Gerry Cox
<gerryannec@verizon.net>

Boundaries *
Carl Miller
<kobold1@erols.com>

Junior Activities *
Roberta Goldstein
<merockhound@psouth.net>

Jim Doran
<jpdoran1@verizon.net>

Jane Kuehn
<jkuehn8@comcast.net>

Budget & Finance
Betsy Oberheim
<Aoberheim3@comcast.net>

Operating Procedures
Steve Weinberger
<cscrystals2@verizon.net>

Carl Miller
<kobold1@erols.com>

Bulletin Editors Advisory *
Mary Bateman
<mbateman1@verizon.net>

Safety *
Jim Doran
<jpdoran1@verizon.net>

Pat Pitkin
<thornyoldrose@gmail.com>

Bylaws / Parliamentarian
Steve Weinberger
<cscrystals2@verizon.net>

Show Coordinator
Matt Charsky
<Charsky.Matthew@epa.gov>

Director
Fran Sick
<ednfran@epix.net>

Club Rockhound of the Year *
Ellery Borow
<bcke9669keta@gwi.net>

Slide & Video Librarian *
Ken Tudor
<kentudor@yahoo.com>

Registrar
Pamm Bryant
<pjbryant6@juno.com>

Conservation & Legislation *
To be appointed

EFMLS NEWS

CAROLYN WEINBERGER, EDITOR
PO Box 302
GLYNDON, MD 21071-0302



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VISIT A SHOW

from Matt Charsky

August

21-22: Gemboree 2010 sponsored by the Blue Grass Gem & Mineral Society. Lexington Convention Center, Lexington, KY.

21-22: 44th Annual Rock & Mineral Show sponsored by the St. Lawrence Co. Rock & Mineral Club. Madrid, NY (NEW LOCATION), near Canton, NY.

September:

4 - 5: 21st Annual Rockhoulder's Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Kennebec Rock & Minerals Club. National Guard Armory, Augusta, ME.

18-19: Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Show sponsored by the Central PA Rock & Mineral Club. Zembo Shrine, Harrisburg, PA.

18-19: 41st Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show and Sale sponsored by the Mid-Hudson Valley Gem & Mineral Society. Dutchess Co. Fairgrounds, Rhinebeck, NY

25-26: 46th Annual Atlantic Coast Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show hosted by the Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore. Howard County Fairgrounds, West Friendship, MD.

October:

1 - 3: Annual Desautels Micromount Symposium hosted by the Baltimore Mineral Society. MHA Conference Center, Elkridge, MD. Registration and information: <cscrystals2@verizon.net>

1 - 3: 33rd Annual Gem, Mineral & Faceters Show sponsored by the Gaston Gem, Mineral & Faceters Club. Gaston County Park, Dallas, NC

16-17: 12th Annual Mineral Show & Sale sponsored by the Fulton Co. Mineral Club. Johnstown Moose Lodge, Rt. 30A; Johnstown, NY.

16-17: 38th Annual Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Bristol Gem & Mineral Club. Bristol Community / Senior Center, Bristol, CT

23-24: Rhode Island Mineral Hunters Annual Show sponsored by Rhode Island Mineral Hunters. CCRI Knight Campus, Warwick, RI.

23-24: 41st Annual Rochester Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show sponsored by the Rochester Academy of Science Mineral Section and Rochester Lapidary Society. Monroe Co. Fair & Expo Center, Henrietta, NY

30: 21st Annual "Ultraviolation" Fluorescent Mineral Show sponsored by the Rock & Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County. First United Methodist Church, Fairless Hills, PA

November:

13: 19th Annual Richmond Gem & Mineral Society Fall Rock Swap sponsored by the Richmond Gem & Mineral Society. Ridge Baptist Church Meeting Hall, 1515 Eastridge Rd; Richmond, Va.

13-14: New York City Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the New York Mineralogical Club. Holiday Inn - Midtown (57th St.), New York, NY.

20-21: 19th Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Northern Virginia Mineral Club. George Mason University, Student Union II Bldg; Fairfax, VA

20-21: 44th Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Bead & Fossil Show sponsored by the Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches. Americraft Expo Center East; West Palm Beach, FL

If you are an EFMLS member club and would like to have your show or swap listed here, send information to Matt Charsky, EFMLS Show Coordinator at 2430 N Glebe Rd; Arlington, VA 22207 or e-mail at <Charsky.Matthew@epa.gov>.