



“ANCIENT LIFE OF NEW YORK”

MARCH 14-15, 2026

**BUFFALO GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY’S
56th ANNUAL GEM-MINERAL-FOSSIL SHOW**

by

Jerry Bastedo, Show Chairman

“ANCIENT LIFE OF NEW YORK” is being featured at the Buffalo Geological Society’s 56th Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show on March 14-15, 2026, at the Erie County Fairgrounds in the Grange, Market Place and New York State Police Buildings in Hamburg, NY, on Saturday, 9 am-6 pm, March 14, 2026, and Sunday, 10 am-5 pm, March 15 2026.

This annual show provides an instant museum of Buffalo Geological Society **Members’ fossils, minerals, and jewelry**; demonstrators; the **famous Mini-Mine** for young collectors; the **mining operation** for children and adults; **mineral and fossil identification**; and a variety of non-profit exhibitors. This highly educational family event affords attendees the opportunity to interact with demonstrators who work with minerals and gems. **Demonstrators** include fossil preparation, jewelry designers, and other lapidary artists. **Sandy Cline, international renowned soapstone** carver from Burleigh Falls, Ontario, Canada, will be demonstrating his art of carving wildlife forms from soapstone and will have several for sale. **Past and Present** will have some of their dinosaurs models available for viewing, along with actual dinosaur bones recently acquired. **The New York State Museum** will be bringing two exhibits of New York State classic fossils from New York. The **Orton Museum, from The Ohio State University**, will have two exhibits from famous paleontologists **James Hall** and other early paleontologists that worked in New York. The **Buffalo Museum of Science** will have an exhibit of New York fossils. A **Fluorescent mineral** exhibit will be available.

In addition, there will be over **33 dealers** selling gems, beads, minerals, fossils, and jewelry from around the world. A **food vendor** and **hourly door prizes** will be available.

Young scientists can visit the “**Mini-Mine**” that offers them the chance to search for mineral specimens in a simulated mine setting. The **mining operation** is for young miners (under 100 years of age) who can search for minerals and fossils in a bag of sand that they wash. All who attend can experience hands-on fun and learn something new about the geological sciences. **Professional Geologists** will be available to discuss what geologists do and what types of jobs are present in the area for geologists. **Boy and Girl Scouts** will be able to earn badge requirements during the show. The **Geology Department from SUNY Fredonia** will have a stream table demonstrating how rivers behave when water flows change.

Fluorescent Minerals of Northern New York State will be presented by Dino Zack, P.G., CPG, STS Senior Geologist/Project Manager, AECOM Technical Services, Inc. on Saturday, March 14 from 11:00 AM to 11:30 AM in the New York State Police Building. No preregistrations are required.

Back to the Moon: Lunar Geology and the Artemis II Mission will be presented by Dr. Kevin Williams, Professor and Planetarium Director at Buffalo State University, on Sunday, March 15 from 1:00 PM to 1:30 PM in the New York State Police Building. No preregistrations are required.

Last year’s show drew over 4,291 children and adults. Families come from all over Western and Central New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Canada to take part in this event. This is a perfect family field trip to learn more about the geological sciences. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, students, teachers, the publi, and rock hounds are welcome. Adults are \$7 each, scouts in uniform and children under 12 are FREE. A 2-day admission for \$10 each is also available. Door prizes are drawn hourly. **FREE parking**. Wheel chair and stroller accessible. For any additional information or questions, please contact Jerry Bastedo, Show Chairman, at jcbastedo@gmail.com.