

# GE LETTER

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## March 1, 2024 Meeting

March brings us to our annual live auction. Since we have many new members, a review of the auction rules is in order.

Members having specimens for auction are permitted a maximum of four (4) items to be auctioned off. Again this year, total proceeds from the sale of the items will go to the person placing them for auction.

Those persons having items for auction should sign in on the master sheet and pick up a package of auction slips. Items should then be identified and a reserve price listed if desired. These items will be placed on the front tables for display in the order they are to be auctioned.

**6:30 pm set-up**

**7:00pm viewing**

**7:30 pm auction begins**

We will need a few people to act as runners (to deliver items to bid winners) and table assistants.

**Please bring a few quality items for our "kids only" auction table.**

There will also be "club items" for auction.

Come early, have fun, bid often and high and enjoy yourselves. Add to your collection and/or your pocketbook from your surplus items.

## Report from the Board

We were treated to a history/acquisition of the Penn-Dixie Fossil Park by Jerry Bastedo; after which he went over the progress of this year's show.

The dealers are all set up and as usual, there is an extensive waiting list for future shows.

There will be special demonstrations by Sandy Cline (soapstone carving) "Paleo Joe" (fossils) and Dino Zack (fluorescent minerals).

Volunteer sheets for the Show will be available again at the March meeting. The more volunteers that we have, the less time each person will have to serve, plus volunteers will receive FREE admission to the show. (A saving of \$7.00 or \$10.00 for 2 days).

Zippered sweatshirts and tee-shirts are being ordered for member purchase.

The annual picnic will again be held at the North Forest Pavilion on Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>. More information in the August newsletter.

There Continuing Education Group will NOT meet in February due to renovations at the Masonic Hall.

Postcards for the show have been mailed to all persons that signed up at last year's show, plus ads have been placed in various newspapers, penny savers, radio and TV stations.

## "BIRTHSTONES"

MARCH 16-17, 2024

By Jerry Bastedo, Show Chairman

"Birthstones" are being featured at the Buffalo Geological Society's 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show on March 16-17, 2024 at the Erie County Fairgrounds in the Market, Grange, and NY State Police Buildings in Hamburg, NY, on Saturday 9am-6pm, and Sunday 10am-5pm, March 16 & 17.

The 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. The 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. A **Fluorescent mineral** exhibit will be available.

In addition, there are over **33 vendors** with gems, beads, minerals, fossils, and jewelry, selling their items 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 they 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 flow changes.

**Fluorescent Minerals of Northern New York** will be presented by Dino Zack, P.G., Senior Geologist/Project Manager, AECOM Technical Services, Inc. on Saturday and Sunday, 11:00 am to 11:30 am in the State Police Building.

Last year's show drew over 5587 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 public, and rock hounds are welcome. Adult admission is \$7.00, scouts in uniform and children under 12 are FREE. A two-day admission of \$10.00 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](mailto:jcbastedo@gmail.com).

**SEE YOU AT THE SHOW!**

## Buffalo Geological Society Winter/Spring Coming Events

**March 1** – Live Auction begins at 6:30 pm. **Please note the earlier time. See information on page 1.**

**Mar.7** – **BGS** Board meeting 7:00 pm at 100 Lee St.

**Mar. 15** – **Set up for Annual Show at the Fairgrounds in Hamburg**

**March 16 &17** – **10 am – 6 pm on Saturday 10 am – 5 pm on Sunday.** Be sure to sign up to volunteer at the various jobs to make our show a success.

**Mar. 27** - **Continuing Education Meeting 8:35 am** – Masonic Hall, Sweet Home Rd. Amherst, NY

**Apr 5** – **BGS** Meeting 7:30 pm – Speakers will be Raymond Vaughn and Caleb Walcott.

**APR. 11**- **BGS** Board meeting 7:00 pm at 100 Lee St.

**Apr. 24** - - **Continuing Education Meeting 8:35 am** – Masonic Hall, Sweet Home Rd. Amherst, NY

**May 3** – Annual Banquet and installation of new officers at Classics Five Restaurant .

