GEOLETTER

Volume 78 Number 4 December 2026

BUFFALO GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY www.bgsny.org

From The President

○ Craig Posmantur



There have been a few events that the BGS has been involved in the month of November. First, the Rock-breaking and Grab Bag work on November 1, 2026. There were several of our members that partook in these activities as well as repairing some gaping holes in the box car. I want to thank all those that were there that day; they are Ed & Pam LePrell, Lauretta Parmelee, Marcia & Matty Binda, Zeena Pawlicki, Rich Myers, Dale Russell, Don Lapham, Walt Alme*ter,* Kelly Brzyski. Chris & Cynthia Boyd, Paul Semanchuk.

Niagara Falls High School Science Fair on January 23, 2027 is the first school presentation for 2027.The details are being worked out; they would like to utilize our "mini-mine" as part of the hands-on experiences at the science fair. I will provide more information when it becomes available.

More of what has been going on in the BGS will be mentioned in the Board Happenings section of the newsletter.

Lastly, I want to wish everyone a healthy and happy Thanksgiving, Chanukah, Christmas and New Year! Safe travels to all when visiting family.

December 4, 2026 Potluck Dinner & Silent Auction

__The annual potluck dinner will be held on Friday, December 4, 2026 at the Lee Street location. The gates to the facility will be open at 530pm for setup and gathering your respective dishes in the rooms. Remember to bring your own plates, silverware, tablecloth and cups. The BGS is supplying the roast beef, rolls (kimmelweck & kaiser), pop, napkins and electrical outlets for the crockpots. The feeding frenzy begins at 630pm. The auction from 730pm to ?



As for the Silent Auction, members who wish to participate in selling some goodies, you are LIMITED to 10 items for sale. Dale Russell will be the coordinator, and the President will be the keeper of the clock for when the bidding begins and ends. At the end of the bidding everyone will return to their seats, and the "runners" will gather the items that were successfully bid on and call out the initials of the winners so that there is no mass confusion. It has worked well for us over the past couple of years, so we're sticking to it

Report from the Board

○. Zeena Pawlicki

The November BGS Board Meeting held on November 12th was basically a review of the October meeting.

The Board received an update regarding the new mini-mine structure. The total cost for the new "structure" will be in the range of $250-$300. A new entrance way to the mini-mine was discussed and it was determined that we will be requiring more panels than originally thought, but the costs are still going to be within the price range previously mentioned.



Fluorite
Okorusu Mine, Nambia

The President assigned various members of the Board to work on the following jobs.
- Dates for the respective meetings are currently being set up
- Membership Retention and how we should go about acquiring the information in a format that will be readily available to the members for their feedback. A survey via email and written forms available at the meetings were the forms accepted. A committee was set up to formulate questions and responses that we will review upon receipt of the forms.
- Review of the Constitution and ByLaws of the BGS in accordance with the requirements of the 501(c) 3 guidelines. Any changes made will be presented in two consecutive newsletters and then a vote of the membership will ensue either to ratify or reject the changes.



Fluorite. Huangshaping Mine,
Hunan Province, China

Possibility of a new venue. There is no rush in finding an alternative to the Heritage Discovery Centre. We are exploring options and other possibilities. Some factors that are to be considered is a location that we house our ever-increasing inventory and materials in the office. We are being crunched for space as of now. Better lighting at the entranceways is also a consideration.

Treasurer's Report

○ Chris Boyd

NOVEMBER 2026 BOARD MEETING

INCOME: Membership $235.00, Interest $0.03,	
TOTAL INCOME	$ 235.03
EXPENSES: Honorarium - October Speaker - $500.00, Newsletter - $112.50,	
Honorarium - November Speaker - $210.00, WIX Fees $3.30	
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$ 825.60**
CHANGE FROM LAST REPORTING PERIOD	**$ (590.57)**

Buffalo Museum of Science Spotlight

https://www.sciencebuff.org

Eurypterid Collection at the Buffalo Museum of Science

Eurypterids, also known as sea scorpions, are extinct marine arthropods. Likely to have first appeared in our fossil record during the late Cambrian period, the majority of eurypterid species became major components of marine fauna during the Silurian. While these arthropods continued to diversify in the Devonian period, they were heavily affected by the late Devonian extinction event and continued to decline in numbers during the Carboniferous and Permian periods.

The first known eurypterid specimen was discovered in Oneida County, New York in Silurian-aged rocks. New York is still one of the primary locations for fossil eurypterids. The Buffalo Museum of Science has one of the largest collections of eurypterids in the world with the majority found locally in Western New York. In 1863 Eurypterus *remipes* was adopted as the BSNS official corporate seal and is still in use to this day. The same species was also named the New York State fossil in 1984.

Lewis Jackson Bennett was a prominent industrialist in Buffalo, NY, a life member of the BSNS, and owner of a quarry located near Main Street and Filmore Ave. While extracting limestone and waterlime for cement production, Bennett and his crew stumbled upon a late Silurian geological layer of one of the most productive sites of eurypterids known as the Bertie Formation. He collected and preserved many specimens from this quarry and later donated these fossils to the BSNS, which is currently a major part of the geology collection at the Buffalo Museum of Science.



Eurypterus lacustris E874
Bennett Quarry, Buffalo, NY
Bertie Formation
Collector – Lewis J. Bennett

Upcoming Events https://www.sciencebuff.org/events/

Collections Live: Geology with Joe

Bring your mystery rocks and fossils and learn how to create and catalog your own collection. Wednesday 11AM-2PM

Winter Break Week

December 27–30 | All Ages FREE with Winter Break Admission WOW Party Buffalo is joining us at the Buffalo Museum of Science for an extra-special Winter Break experience! Get ready for high-energy, interactive fun featuring bubbles, music, and plenty of WOW-worthy moments for the whole family. Take a break from exploring the Museum's four floors and join the party as WOW Party Buffalo brings their bubble show to Winter Break Week. Jump into the fun while discovering just how exciting science can be when you mix a little curiosity with a whole lot of play! Showtimes: 10:30 a.m. | 11:30 a.m. | 1:00 p.m. | 2:00 p.m.

In Memorandum Dr. Gorden Baird

• Joseph Sullivan



The world of geology lost a giant with the passing of Dr. Gordon Baird. I first met Dr. Baird way back in the 1990's while attending the northeast section of the Geological Society of America down in New Jersey. He was always very accommodating and eager to help anyone that had a budding interest in geology. Over the years the BGS was lucky to have him as a speaker for our meetings. His first discipline in geology was stratigraphy. His first job was assistant curator at the Field Museum in Chicago. This led him to working out the famous Mazon Creek Lagerstatte in the state of Illinois. In the mid 1980's he acquired a permanent teaching position at SUNY Fredonia. He began tracing the Middle Devonian crinoidal limestone member of the Moscow formation, the Tichenor Limestone across New York State. If you ever get the chance to read one of his many published papers you will notice that Dr. Baird had a very cool way of drawing the plants and marine animals in his papers to help show what the environment looked like during the Devonian. I was very lucky I got to share so much time with him traveling to different places and being in the field.

BGS Education/Fellowship Meeting

Craig Posmantur

The following is the schedule for the Education/Fellowship meeting 'held at Sweet Home Masonic Hall, 841 Sweet Home Rd, Eggertsville, New York. The time we start is 8:35am on the LAST Wednesday of the month starting in September and running through April. Breakfast is served about 9am no charge but donations are Welcome!

- December 30, 2026 NO Meeting Happy Holidays!
- January 27, 2027 Basic preparation instruction of fossils and minerals hand out will be provided
- February 24, 2027, Holly Schreiber and Kacey Paige, directors of Buffalo Museum of Science, speaking on upcoming exhibits & continued collaboration with BGS
- March & April 2027 TBA

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS 10/15 - 11/15/26

William Anner
Jessica Baglio,
Adam Kagan.r

Banquet 2027



This years banquet will be held at Sean Patrick's Restaurant on Friday May 7, 2027. The speaker will be Jeff Scovil, an internationally acclaimed photographer of minerals who has been featured on Rock & Gem, National Geographic and other publications. We strongly recommend that all those who are interested in coming to the banquet make reservations as early as possible. We are capping the number of attendees at 150. That is a firm number as the restaurant can't handle more in the banquet hall. More information will follow in upcoming Geoletters.

Orton Geological Museum Spotlight

https://ortonmusium.osu.edu

• Loren Babcock

The Newberry Collection of Fossil Fishes

In 1890, Sir Arthur Smith Woodward wrote, in the journal *Nature*, that "Nearly all of importance that has hitherto been written concerning the Palaeozoic fishes of the United States has proceeded from the pen of Prof. J.S. Newberry..."

Scientifically, John Strong Newberry (1822–1889) is perhaps best remembered for his groundbreaking publications on Devonian and Carboniferous fishes. Many of his new fossil fish species were from Ohio, where he grew up and was schooled, and where he later served as the State Geologist (1869–1882). Between 1853 and 1889, Newberry described approximately 100 species of fossil fishes from the Delaware Limestone, Columbus Limestone, Ohio Shale, and Bedford Formation–Berea Sandstone (all Devonian), and from the Upper Freeport Coal (Linton deposit, Carboniferous). It is widely understood that fossil fishes of these strata are among the diverse known from the Paleozoic Erathem. Many of the well-known Devonian species that he named are also found in New York and elsewhere in the eastern and midwestern US, as well as in southern Canada.

Newberry held dual appointments following the US Civil War: he was a Professor at Columbia College (now Columbia University) and Chief Geologist of the Geological Survey of Ohio. The fossil collections that he amassed were mostly split between Columbia (and later transferred to the American Museum of Natural History, AMNH) and universities in Ohio, especially Ohio Wesleyan University (beginning in the 1850s) and the Orton Geological Museum at The Ohio State University (beginning about 1874). Portions of the Ohio Wesleyan collection have been transferred to the AMNH and the Orton Museum, where they are available for study.

The Society of Vertebrate Paleontology met in Cleveland, Ohio, November 11–15, 2026. A field trip on Sunday, November 15, which featured "Classic Devonian Fish Localities and Historic Newberry Collections in Ohio," traced the origins of Newberry's original Devonian fossil fishes from Cleveland to central Ohio. It included stops in the Devonian limestones and black shales from which he named many species. It also included a stop in the Orton Museum to examine specimens used in Newberry's original publications.

The classic Devonian fish localities excursion can be repeated for BGS members in the future if there is sufficient interest. Some of the original localities are protected and can no longer be collected but other nearby areas are open to collecting.



The original teeth of *Onychodus sigmoides* (A, B) compared to Newberry's 1853 illustration (C); and Newberry's illustration of *O. hopkinsi* (= *O. sigmoides*) (D) compared to the original tooth whorl (E). The specimens are from the Delaware Limestone (Middle Devonian), Delaware, Ohio. Lengths: A = 55 mm; B = 20 mm; E (central tooth) = 21 mm.

Orton Geological Museum Spotlight

https://ortonmusium.osu.edu

- Loren Babcock

In the Orton Museum, we have been using ultraviolet (UV) illumination extensively, both in lab studies and to help find more vertebrate material in the field. Here, Bob Carr (Cleveland Museum of Natural History) demonstrates this technique on the field trip.



Mineral of the Month- Galena

by Dave Jacobson

The mineral for this month is Galena (PbS, lead sulphide). Galena is a common mineral and is one of the more important lead ores. It is present in almost all hydrothermal sulphide ore bodies and is associated with pyrite, chalcopyrite and sphalerite. Galena from some locations is silver bearing. Although galena is the leading lead ore, enough silver is recovered during ore processing to make it a leading silver ore. Galena is found in most mineral collections as its cubic shape makes it an interesting specimen. Galena is a common mineral. Some of the more noted sites where galena has been mined are the Texas-Oklahoma-Missouri Tri-State Mining area in the USA; Broken Hill, Australia: Cumberland, England and Santa Eulalia, Mexico.



Galena is in the isometric (cubic) crystal system. Cube shaped galena crystals are very common. The stepped offsets in the faces of these cubic crystals are also very common. Galena has a hardness of 2.5 - 2.7 with a specific gravity of 7.58. It's streak is lead gray. Galena's color ranges from a metallic silver-gray appearance to dull lead gray. Freshly fractured specimens usually have a metallic luster with the luster diminishing to a duller gray over time. Galena is easy to identify, with its shape, color, hardness and high specific gravity.

Galena gets its name from the Greek, galene, meaning "lead ore".

The following reference materials were used in preparing this article:
- A Field Guide to Rocks and Minerals by Frederick H. Pough.
- Mineralogy For Amateurs by John Sinkankus.
- Simon & Schusters Guide to Rocks and Minerals.
- From Canaveral Moonstone August 2022 Vol. T No. 8 10 via The Quarry 9/22.Photo from weinrichmineralsinc.com. It should be noted, small specimens have been found in local quarries.
- The RockCollector 9/22

"FLUORITE"

MARCH 20-21, 2027
BUFFALO GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S
57th ANNUAL GEM-MINERAL-FOSSIL SHOW
by Jerry Bastedo, Show Chairman

"FLUORITE" is being featured at the Buffalo Geological Society's 57th Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show on March 20-21, 2027, at the Erie County Fairgrounds in the Grange and Market Place Buildings in Hamburg, NY, on Saturday, 9 am-6 pm, March 20, 2027, and Sunday, 10 am-5 pm, March 21, 2027. Admission is $7/person, $10 for 2 days and children 12 and under FREE.



A new mini-mine will be featured at the 57th Annual Show. The current mini-mine was constructed by Jim and Cindy Ahl in the early 1970s, which was planned to be used for one year. The new mine will be easy to store and setup. We are looking for volunteers to help Emilia Birtz run the mine. It is a fun experience for all.

Volunteers are needed to help with setup, covering tables, admissions, exhibiting, demonstrators, and take down on Sunday. Sign-up sheets will be available at future meetings. Your help would be greatly appreciated. Everyone needs to help with publicity. The Reminder Cards and posters will be available at meetings to be handed out to scouts, schools, senior groups, and anyone that may be interested. Let's try something new this year and include a Reminder Card with the Christmas cards and gifts you give out.



Last year's show drew over 4,000 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. 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. Additional information will be available in next month's newsletter. For any additional information or questions, please contact Jerry Bastedo, Show Chairman, at jcbastedo@gmail.com.

November 3, 2026, Speaker

The general meeting of the BGS on November 3rd was very well attended. The talk by Michael McElwee discussing the work done at Rose Road in the North Country was enlightening. New excavations have opened better collecting opportunities as well as better access to those new sites. Videos and photos highlighted the work and Mike brought in specimens that were found at the digs.

Dino Fest

- **Craig Posmantur**



Dino Fest at the Buffalo Museum of Science held on November 7 & 8, 2026 was an entertaining event and I wish to thank Gerry Wochadlo for coming to assist me on Sunday as well as Don Lapham for providing the fluorescent minerals; they are always a favorite wherever we go. The weather was a bit too nice which resulted in a dip in the usual attendance, but still, approximately 1200 showed up for the two days.









AMERICAN ROCK SALT MINE TOUR
(PART 1)



On August 14, 2022 20 members of the Buffalo Geological Society met in the parking lot of the American Salt Mine to take a tour of their facility. We were escorted into a conference room.

They talked about the geological history of the area. Around 400 million years ago, during the Silurian period, an ancient saltwater ocean had engulfed the entire region of what we know today as the New York Genesse Valley! Over time the water levels receded and dried up, but the salt from the sea remained.

We were also given the history of salt mining in the area around Retsof mine and its flooding and closing in 1995. The history of the founding of the American Rock Salt company in 1997, to the construction and opening of the mine in 2001.

After a safety talk, we were issued safety gear which included a hard hat, safety glasses, reflective vest, escape respirator and a safety tag.

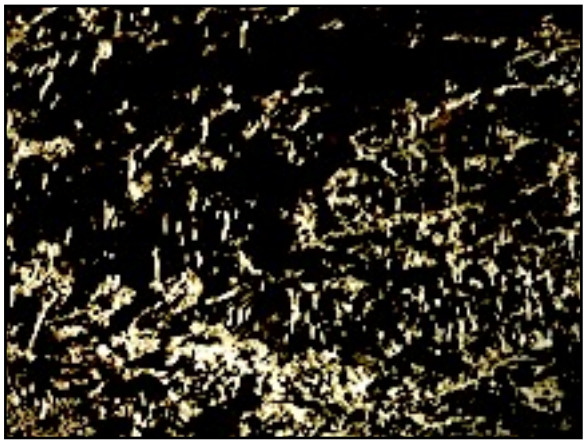
We then made our way to the elevator to descend 1,200 feet to begin the mine tour.



Getting ready to go down to the mine.
(J. Sullivan pic)



In the elevator heading down to the mine.
(J. Sullivan pic)



Salt crystals lining the cracks of the walls in the Mine.



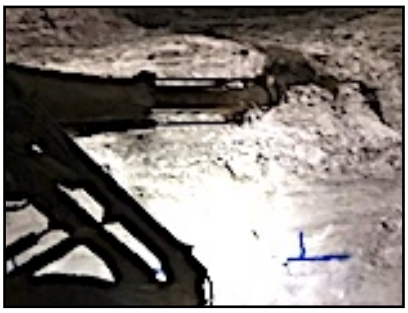
BGS members road in this wagon more than a mile to the active mining area.

AMERICAN ROCK SALT MINE TOUR

A tractor pulled the wagon with the 20 BGS members to the active mining area and then to the other main processing areas of the mine. At each stop the tour leaders would explain what was happening in this area and they would answer any questions we had.







Once the mine wall is undercut a special drilling machine bores small holes into the face of the salt. Then miners will prime these holes with explosive materials and prepare to start blasting. Miners ignite the explosives, creating a blast that dislodges 800 to 900 tons of rock salt in less than three seconds.

Huge front-end loaders transport the blasted rock salt to the primary crusher. Loaders dump their loads of salt into a powerful spinning crusher, where large pieces are quickly crushed and screened down to small pieces.



The scoop of a giant front end loader used to move salt to the crusher. (J. Sullivan pic)



Mounds of Halite awaiting to be fed into the crusher. (J. Sullivan pic)



Lois Shriver in front of crusher.



Jerry Wochadlo in front of crusher.

American Rock Salt Mine Tour continued January 2027

Editors Note: Please remember that "Fossilized News" articles are reprints of features from previous Geoletters. As such costs, contacts and accessibility to various localities may have changed. Be sure to research these aspects before attempting to recreate any of the contents of this article.

"Fossilized" News

From Geoletter 10/1991

PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS OF DAVID E. JENSEN - MINERALOGIST

Compiled by: Dr. Henry E. Stadlinger



DAVID E. JENSEN was born in 1909 in Penn Yan, New York. His elementary education took place at Penn Yan Academy. Mr. Jensen (Dave) received a BA from Cornell University, where he majored in chemistry with a minor in mineralogy. He then received his MA in Geology from the University of Rochester in 1932.

Dave joined Ward's in 1931, and this became his steady employment. In 1947 he became head of Ward's Geology Division, and served until his retirement in 1974 as Vice President of Ward's Establishment. I first met Dave in 1947.

Dave's main function at Ward's was to obtain mineral, rock, and fossil specimens from all corners of the earth, and to redistribute them to schools, colleges, museums, and research organizations as well as private collectors. He has written over one hundred articles on geographical topics for various publications, including "Rocks and Minerals" magazine and "Lapidary Journal".

Earth Science education expanded greatly during these years and Dave through Ward's contributed much to this growth.

Many visual education slides and crystal models were developed by Dave's wife, Katherine H. Jensen, who was a very capable nature photographer, artist, and lecturer in her own right. In the 1950's, Dave wrote a book entitled My Hobby is Collecting Rocks and Minerals, which is now out of print. He revised George Letchworth English's text Getting Acquainted with Minerals. English was one of the earlier mineralogists at Ward's, who later developed his own private mineral business. Dave's last publication was Minerals of New York State, with masterful photography by his wife.

Dave Jensen was: a Fellow of the Geological Society of America, a Fellow and Life Member of The Mineralogical Society of America, a Fellow of the Rochester Academy of Science, Research Associate of the Buffalo Museum of Science, a director of Friends of Mineralogy, a Fellow of the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland, and also past president of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies.

Much of this information on David Jensen was obtained from the autobiography, now out of print, entitled In My Time Memoirs. Much was also obtained from the close association with Dave and Kay Jensen, Clifford J. Awald, and myself. With the passing of the Jensens and Ward's Establishment, a wonderful golden era was brought to a close, never tp be repeated.

"Fossilized" News

From Geoletter 2/2003



BGS SPOTLIGHT - DON LAPHAM III

Don is our field trip chairman and has been a member since 1999, and is a chemist (another one) at FMC Corporation, in Tonawanda. His education includes a B.S. in Geology from Bucknell University (1983), and a B.A. in Chemistry from Rutgers University 2000). Girls, he is single and besides rock collecting he enjoys golf and sking.

Don's personal comments:

My first specialized collecting was at the Herkimer Diamond Mines. For about 12 years my parents and brother and I would spend Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day long weekends digging for Diamonds. As time passed we grew bored with Diamond collecting and looked for something different. We came up with the Sanford, ME vesuvianite deposit which we visited for about 3 years in a row. My interest in Fraklin and Ogdensburg fluorescent minerals took off when the Sterling Hill mine was being turned into a museum and I was able to volunteer time restoring the grounds and serving as a tour guide. With my parents I have visited the annual Tucson show for about 15 years now, managing to find time or one or two days of collecting within the week of shopping. Relocation to the Buffalo area has added the minerals of the Lockport Dolomite now as a speciality. (Don also seems to likes fossil collecting, and that's good). Keep up the good work Don, we appreciate it.

NOW HIS MOTHERS VIEW

. Franklin Was The Cause of it All

Franklin was the cause of it all! Our local school took our son Don's 4th grade class on a field trip to the Franklin Museum and the Buckwheat Dump. Don's interest in minerals was cemented by 8th grade when he saw the collection of a buddy whose uncle lived in Brazil. Meanwhile, the four of us (Donald & I and our sons (Don & Ken) had joined the Rockland County, NY, Mineral & Gem Society where we learned a considerable amount about field collecting. As a family we spent many weekends and summer vacations collecting from Florida to Ontario.

Our son Don's interest led him to a B.S. in geology, though he currently works as a chemist and will complete that degree this year. As "Quarry Enterprises" we grew from a 4 table space at the old Rockland County show to becoming full-fledged dealers. Most of our stock is purchased for resale, but we do sometimes sell something self-collected. We are still avid field collectors.

Three things led Don to his addiction to Franklin/Sterling Hill minerals. First, part of an old collection purchased some years back consisted of NJ fluorescents. Second was the opening of the Sterling Hill Mine, where Don as one of the helper-volunteers whenever he was available-something he loved to do. And last, but not least, was the willingness of the more established Franklin collectors to share their knowledge and help a new comer identify the specimens he acquired. Franklin materiai is a whole other ball game it takes more knowledge and detective work than does, say identifing prenite or amethyst.

So in the end, we probadly wouldn't be doing what we are today had not Franklin started it all

Audray Lapham
submitted by: Gerald Wochadlo, from the Franklin Ogdensburg "Picking Table."

"Fossilized" News

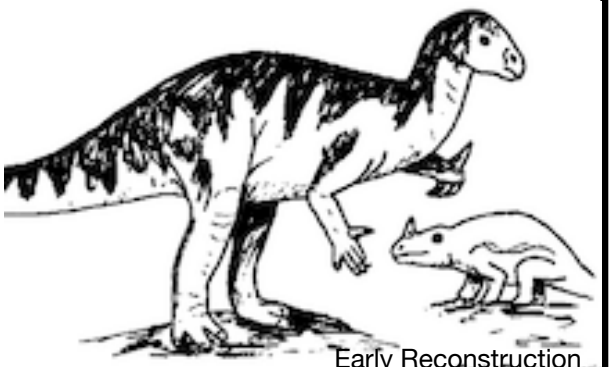
From Geoletter 12/1990

DINOSAUR Of THE MONTH

by Rick Bett

THIS MONTH'S FEATURE: IGUANODON

This plant-eating dinosaur was medium-sized (to 27 feet long and weighing up to 2.5 tons), and traveled in herds in Europe and North America during the Early Cretaceous Period. Iguanodon is one of the first dinosaurs discovered, Its bones collected by an English gentleman named Gideon Mantell. The early reconstructions of this dino didn't look anything like what we now know it to have looked like: the pike-like thumb was even considered to have been a horn on the nose!



Early Reconstruction

Buffalo Geological Society Coming Events

December 2 – 6:30 pm Annual Pot-Luck Dinner and Silent Auction. Bring a dish to pass, your own table settings and items you wish to enter for the auction.

December 8 - BGS Board Meeting 7:00 pm, 100 Lee Street, Buffalo, NY

December 25 - MERRY CHRISTMAS

December 30 - BGS Fellowship Meeting No Meeting

January 8 – BGS Meeting 7:30 pm - Speaker to be announced
100 Lee Street, Buffalo, NY

January 8 - BGS Board Meeting 7:00 pm, 100 Lee Street, Buffalo, NY

January 27- BGS Fellowship Meeting 8:35 am, Basic preparation instruction of fossils and minerals hand out will be provided, Masonic Temple, 641 Sweet Home Road, Amherst, NY

February 5 – BGS Meeting 7:30 pm - Speaker to be announced
100 Lee Street, Buffalo, NY

February 11 - BGS Board Meeting 7:00 pm, 100 Lee Street, Buffalo, NY

February 24 - BGS Fellowship Meeting 8:35 am, Holly Schreiber and Kacey Paige, directors of Buffalo Museum of Science, speaking on upcoming exhibits & continued collaboration with BGS
Masonic Temple, 641 Sweet Home Road, Amherst, NY

March 5 - BGS Meeting 7:30 pm - Speaker to be announced, **100 Lee Street, Buffalo, NY**

March 11 - BGS Board Meeting 7:00 pm, 100 Lee Street, Buffalo, NY

March 20 - 21, BGS Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show; "FLUORITE"

Club Officers

- **President:**
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  - **Chris Boyd** 716-291-1865
- **Secretary:**
  - **Zeena Pawlicki** 716-536-1969\
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- **Webmaster:**
  - **Lucy LaPlaca** email



Buffalo Geological Society
Heritage Discovery Center
100 Lee Street
Buffalo, New York 14210

History of the BGS

A mineral club has existed in one form or another since the inception of the Buffalo Society of Natural History in 1861.

The society was originally formed on February 2nd, 1938 as the Geological Section of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences. Dr. Irving G. Reimann, Curator of Geology at the Buffalo Museum of Science was the first president. Its purpose is to bring people together that enjoy learning, studying, collecting, and sharing in a family atmosphere this common interest of geological sciences and related fields. These fields range from mineralogy and paleontology to lapidary and beyond. This is accomplished by annual shows, meetings, swaps, banquets, field trips, continuing education groups, and many more monthly programs that end or begin with a social hour. Regular meetings occur through April on the first Friday of every month. Meetings start at 7:30pm and are free/open to the public. Membership starts at $15.00 for individuals and $20.00 for families. We meet at 100 Lee Street in Buffalo, NY 14210 in the Heritage Discovery Center.

Meetings will not be canceled based on Buffalo Public Schools closing, rather current weather or weather predictions for the area will cause cancellation of meetings/events. If we cancel due to weather we can still meet via ZOOM. Please watch emails, social media, the radio and local news stations for notifications.

The BGS is a non for profit organization 501c3 affiliate of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, Inc and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

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