



# The Buffalo Geological Society Geoletter

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**November, 2025**

## **Something to pick at from your President**

Hello member(s),

Not much to say this month, look for more of an update in the December newsletter. In December we will have our annual pot luck dinner and auction. Mark your calendars as it's always a good time and bring a dish to pass! All proceeds in the auction go back to the sellers. See below a link and meeting information for the RAS Mineral Meeting Lecture.

Best!

Keith Rowe

President of BGS

**You are invited to the RAS Mineral Meeting Lecture**

**Tuesday, November 25, 2025**

***Copper, iron, and aluminum: Where do they come from?***

**Presented by Howard Heitner PhD**

**7:20 p.m.** Virtual portal open.

**7:30 p.m. Lecture.**

**About the Presentation:** Copper, iron, and aluminum: Where do they come from?

The presentation will address three metals which are critical to our industrial economy. Iron and copper utilization go back to ancient times when they were used for tools and weapons. On the other hand, aluminum has a history of less than 200 years. These useful elements are extracted from ores, which the talk will focus on. The entire sequence, from ore mining to final product, is governed by economics. In addition, the ore processing and metal production have important environmental consequences.

**About the Presenter:**

Dr. Howard Heitner has been collecting minerals for over 60 years. Among his many interests in all things mineral, is the history of collecting and dealing, fluorescence, and pseudomorphs. On these topics he has shared his expertise with the Academy over the years. His career was spent as a chemist in the Greater New York region, primarily developing chemicals used in mineral processing. Howard moved near Rochester some years ago, and joined the Mineral Section of our Academy. He keeps busy attending RMSC exhibit workshops, posting specimens on Mindat, as well as organizing his extensive collection.

**Zoom Meeting Details:**

If you have difficulty getting in, call host Michael Grenier at (585) 764-8635.

**On your computer, use this link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81002052898?pwd=V0dFYTY2eWRyZHRMUzgrb0pVNHozUT09>

This link has the Meeting ID (810 0205 2898) and the Passcode (618323) embedded in it so you should not need to enter these separately.

**One tap mobile (SmartPhone):**

+19292056099,, 81002052898#,,,,\*618323#

(If difficulty, try +13017158592,,81002052898#,,,,\*618323#)

**Dial-up :** If you are on telephone only, or if you want to use your phone for the audio:

+1 929 205 6099 (New York) (If difficulty, try +1 312 626 6799 (Chicago) or +1 301 715 8592 (Germantown))

**Meeting ID:** 810 0205 2898, **Passcode:** 61832

## **Upcoming Trips**

- Craig P. our VP has contacted many of the other rock and mineral clubs in NYS. Due to the fact we are all under The Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies we are all covered by the same insurance. This means that most clubs have

agreed to allow our club members to join in on trips. That being said if you hear about a trip another club is running let us know and we can add it in the newsletter!

## Upcoming Speakers/Meetings

(Meetings are the 1st Friday of each month Oct.- April, Doors open at 7pm with the speaker starting at 7:30pm)

\*\*\*\*\**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.*

**December 5th: Pot Luck Dinner and Voice Auction (Details in a separate email)**

## Past Trips, Meetings and Events

Over the summer and into September we visited our usual spots and a new quarry in Albion, NY. The Eagle Harbor Quarry in Albion, NY was a freshly blasted quarry. While not many specimens other than dog tooth calcite were found it offered a glimpse of something different. This quarry is a sand and gravel quarry. In the quarry you could see the sand layer that sits on top of the bedrock. This sand had lots of treasures inside, gneiss, polished fossil "soup", and other glacial debris was found. A member even found a greenish log which he believed was buried during the ice age. So while not petrified still a cool find. Another notable find was dog tooth calcite covered in natural petroleum. As an added bonus the owner was on sight and gave us a great run down of the geologic layers and history of this newer quarry.

## Continuing Education

Crag our VP will be in touch about plans and upcoming topics. Look for his communication as we move further into the fall and winter seasons.

## Events and Upcoming Shows

- Buffalo Gem and Mineral Show, March 2026
- Wayne County Gem and Mineral Show will be the first weekend in June of 2026

## Rock Spotlight:

**Article:** Revisiting the Sterling Hill Orebody: Challenges in Understanding and Mining this Magnificent Deposit

**Website link:** <https://ganj.org/ganj-guidebooks/>

**\*The article is rather long and there are many images. Please download.**

Sources:

GANJ: Geological Association of New Jersey website

\*\*\*\*Each month we will showcase something different from the rock, mineral and fossil world. If you have a suggest please email Ryan Frost at [Buffaloryan.716@gmail.com](mailto:Buffaloryan.716@gmail.com)

## Financial Update

- Note from the Treasurer: Accounts are balanced/taxes submitted, and checks from vendors for the 2026 Gem show are coming in.

## History of the BGS

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 October 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.

## Club Officers

- President:
  - Keith Rowe.....716-860-1689
- Vice President/EFMSL Delegate/Inventory Control
  - Craig Posmantur.....716-834-8935
- Treasurer:
  - Chris Boyd.....716-291-1865
- Secretary:
  - Zeena Pawlicki.....716-536-1969
- Show Chairmen:
  - Jerry Bastedo.....716-864-2701
- Membership Chairman
  - Jeanne Phillips.....716-838-5786
- Field trip Chairmen:
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  - Don Lapham III.....716-438-3794
  - Joe Sullivan.....716-823-8371
- Directors
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  - Marcia Binda.....716-863-0020
  - William Broad.....716-632-8355
  - Don Lapham III.....716-438-3794
  - Paul Leuchner.....716-704-0546
  - Deb Pirson.....716-773-6078
  - Dale Russell.....716-691-9702
  - Laretta Parmalee.....716-603-4700
  - Ron Schmidt.....716-688-6405
- Hospitality
  - Judy Russell.....716-691-9702
- Newsletter Editor
  - Ryan Frost.....[Buffaloryan.716@gmail.com](mailto:Buffaloryan.716@gmail.com) (716)712-6600
- Webmaster:
  - Lucy LaPlaca.....716-667-3115

\*\*\*\*For contact information please see our website <https://www.bgsny.org/>

