

GEOLOGICAL LETTER

Volume 78

Number 2

October 2026

BUFFALO GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

www.bgsny.org

From The President

o Craig Posmantur

It's that time of year again where events are starting to take place around WNY. Please look over the sections below to find out about somethings going on here in WNY. We are looking for volunteers for our Gem and Mineral Show as well as several other opportunities at schools and welcome centers. March 18th we will be visiting South Buffalo Charter School, March 21st and 22nd we will be at the Buffalo Museum of Science for DINOfest from 10am to 5pm. April 24th from 6pm to 8pm we will be set up at the WNT Welcome Center on Grand Island. If you are interested in volunteering please reach out to me (Craig with dates and times.



Upcoming Speakers/Meetings

o For our October meeting we have Carl Fechko. His presentation is educational, very interesting, and sometimes entertaining. The actual title for his talk is "Scuba Diving for Fossils". (You go scuba diving and you actually collect fossils from the ocean floor.) A detailed account of the wonderful fossils that are found by scuba diving, A description of a specific diving location where fossils may be found, The History and Geology of the location where fossils may be found, His power point presentation will include many photographs and underwater videos that I created of my son and me collecting fossils in the Gulf of Mexico while we were scuba diving.

Carl is a graduate from Xavier University class of 1973. Bachelor of Science Biology Cleveland State University class of 1988 Masters of Education with computer specialization. He retired from his teaching job for 35 years with the Cleveland City Schools. He is a certified open water scuba diver & has been diving for fossils since 1998.

His best fossil find is that of an Acanthodian\spiny shark that turned out to be the oldest-most complete jawed vertebrate in the fossil record at 420 million years old.

He donated his fossil fish to the Royal Ontario Museum in Canada where it is on permanent display in the new "Dawn of Life Exhibit"

See Article on page 4



Report from the Board

o. Zeena Pawlicki

The September BGS Board Meeting held on September 16th was productive.

First. our Treasurer, Chris Boyd, indicated that he would be stepping down in May of 2027. We have a tentative replacement who we are going to “groom” for the job.

Second. the upcoming speakers and activities were discussed. October will feature Carl Feshke November a mineral guy who is being signed up as we speak and December is the annual Potluck dinner and silent auction.

Third. The Board has decided to put the old paper mache mini mine to rest. We are replacing it with a cloth and metal unit that will be considerably less than the \$3200 that was originally earmarked for the project. The new cost is less than \$500. Thanks to Marcia Binda & Zeena Pawlicki for doing the price checks as well as Ed LePrell for volunteering to work on the metal fabrication. He will be assisted by Chris Boyd.

Fourth. The BGS Board authorized donations to the following 501c3 organizations

\$ 500 Sweet Home Masonic Hall Association [this was a budgeted expense]

\$ 500 WNY Rail Museum This is at the Heritage Discovery Centre.

Fifth. The board authorized payment for the annual rent for the Boxcar, office and meeting nights at the Heritage Discovery Centre. The amount will be listed in the Treasurer's report next month. FYI The cost at the Centre is approximately 40% of what it used to cost us when we met at Parkside Church and had storage at Life Storage.

Sixth. The BGS Board authorized payment to our Webmaster for the year for \$300

Seventh. The BGS Board authorized the purchase of merchandise for sale at the annual show, This will include UV Flashlights, Mugs and other materials. The amount is not to exceed \$200

Eighth. A rock breaking and grab bag setup party is tentatively scheduled for October 31st {Halloween} from 9am to 12 Noon. Pizza & Wings to Follow. The number of grab-bags we are attempting to make up is around 850 – 900 bags. We need help to get that job done. Our usual member who does it all, Lauretta Parmelee, is moving and will have limited time to get them done by herself by March

Calcite on Fluorite
Cave-in-Rock, Hardin County, Illinois



Treasurer's Report

o Chris Boyd

SEPTEMBER 2026 BOARD MEETING

INCOME: Banquet \$1,125.00, Honorariums & Donations \$200.00, Interest \$11.68,
Show - Vendor Fees \$4,750.00, Membership \$945.00, Bus Trip \$30.00,
Miscellaneous Sales \$22.00

TOTAL \$ 7,083.68

EXPENSES: Show Supplies /Postage / Printing \$483.32, Banquet - Sean Patrick \$3,305.60,
Banquet - Speaker \$322.00, Legal / Accounting - Tax Preparation \$1,150.00,
Mindat Sponsorship \$140.00, Picnic. \$268.78, Mailing Membership Cards \$78.00,
NYS Non-Profit Fees \$100.00, Rock breaking Refreshments. \$89.16,
Miscellaneous Supplies \$7.69, Carnegie Field Trip \$1,450.00, WIX Fees \$39.02

TOTAL \$ 7,433.57

CHANGE FROM LAST REPORTING PERIOD \$ (349.89)

Buffalo Museum of Science Spotlight

<https://www.sciencebuff.org>



It's DinoFEST at the Buffalo Museum of Science!!

Join us for this 2-day family friendly event where we feature our amazing geology collection on Saturday November 7th and Sunday November 8th with extended hours from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Travel back millions of years at DinoFEST: Roar & Explore Weekend! Discover the science behind Earth's most fascinating prehistoric creatures through hands-on activities, live demonstrations, and immersive experiences for explorers of all ages.

Step into the role of a paleontologist as you uncover fossils, investigate how scientists reconstruct dinosaur skeletons, compare dinosaurs to their modern descendants, and examine the evidence that helps us understand how these incredible animals lived. Discover prehistoric games, meet special dinosaur guests, and enjoy interactive experiences that bring the age of dinosaurs to life.

You can even interact with local partners throughout the museum, including members of the Buffalo Geological Society sharing their own collections.



We will also be presenting the movie *T. rex*, narrated by Sam Neill, throughout both days as well as live stage shows in the auditorium. If you want to dig deeper, join us on Saturday at 2:30 p.m. in the auditorium to hear from our panel of local paleontologists and stay for a meet and greet after.

Whether you're a lifelong dinosaur enthusiast or just beginning your prehistoric journey, DinoFEST is the perfect opportunity to dig deeper into the discoveries, mysteries, and science that continue to shape our understanding of the ancient world.

Upcoming Events

<https://www.sciencebuff.org/events/>

Science Stadium, our new permanent exhibit opens to the public on September 26th.

Developed in partnership with the Buffalo Bills, Buffalo Sabres, and Buffalo Bandits, Science Stadium brings the science behind the games we love to life.

Adult Night at the Museum: Spooky Edition

October 16th 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. (21+ event)

Step into the Buffalo Museum of Science after dark for a Halloween celebration unlike any other. This adult-only (21+) Spooky Science After Hours fills the Museum with eerie entertainment, hauntingly fun science, and festive surprises around every corner.

Silurian Fish

A story about the one that didn't get away!

Inset: The right half of Carl's "spiny shark" fossil, *Nerepisacanthus denisoni* (112 mm long), as reassembled for study.

Left: Artist's reconstruction of the appearance of *Nerepisacanthus denisoni* in life.

On a sunny Autumn day in 2011, Carl Fechko—a dedicated amateur fossil collector from Ohio—was carefully chiselling up slabs of Silurian-age (formed about 420 million years ago) bedrock from a southern Ontario quarry floor. Along with his fellow hobbyists, Carl was on the hunt for elusive eurypterids, an extinct group of aquatic arthropods (joint-legged invertebrates) distantly related to living horseshoe crabs and scorpions. The rare and highly prized fossil remains of eurypterids occur in very few places, and almost always to the exclusion of other kinds of fossils. Finding a complete eurypterid in this quarry is rather like locating a stony needle in a 420-million- year-old haystack, but Carl's next chisel split revealed something even more unexpected.

There, on the freshly exposed rock surface, was what appeared to be a small fish! Although the evolutionary origins of fish and fish-like animals can be traced all the way back to the Cambrian Period (about 515 million years ago), those earliest primitive vertebrates were soft-bodied and lacked many of the features (including scales, bony bits, and jaws) that characterize the later fossil record. It wasn't until sometime around 440 million years ago, near the beginning of the Silurian Period, that the record yields tantalizing but rare and fragmentary evidence that jaw-bearing fishes had evolved. As it turns out, Carl had serendipitously uncovered the most complete fossil of an early jawed-fish known anywhere in the world! With the assistance of other flabbergasted collectors, both split halves of Carl's discovery were photographically documented and extracted in several pieces. And there on the spot, in consultation with his fellow collectors, Carl made the decision to donate what they all recognized as a potentially significant discovery to the ROM's palaeontology collections.

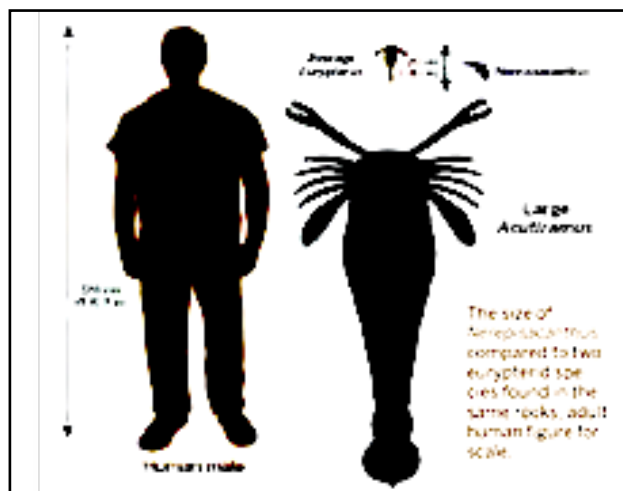


Carl Fechko next to his discovery.

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4

Fast forward almost three years. After an intensive period of study, spearheaded by early fossil fish expert Dr. Carole Burrow of the Queensland Museum in Brisbane, Australia, a description and discussion of the importance of Carl's extraordinary find appeared in the journal PLOS ONE on August 5, 2014. The little fish, measuring just over 11 centimetres in length, belongs to an extinct group called the Acanthodii (colloquially, the "spiny sharks"). It is not only the oldest known intact fossil of a jaw-bearing fish, it is also the first of its kind to be described from Ontario rocks. There is still much to be learned from, and about, this diminutive Silurian predator that shared the seas with much larger eurypterids, and it is all thanks to Carl Fechko's discovery and generous donation of his unintended catch to the ROM.



- DAVE RUDKIN is assistant curator of Invertebrate Palaeontology in the ROM's Department of Natural History.
- The Royal Ontario Museum's Quarterly Magazine, ROM magazine Fall 2014

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!

- October 28, 2026, Don Lapham, Collecting in Missouri & minerals that can be found there.
- November 25, 2026 Glen LaPlaca Collecting in South Dakota Dinos unearthed,
- December 30, 2026 NO Meeting Happy Holidays!
- January 27, 2027 Basic preparation instruction of fossils and minerals

**WELCOME
TO OUR
NEW MEMBERS
8/15-9/15/26**

**Frank Czechowski
Jeannie Odell
Perri Wilkin
Nicholas Peters
Richard Wesser**

View from the Escarpment

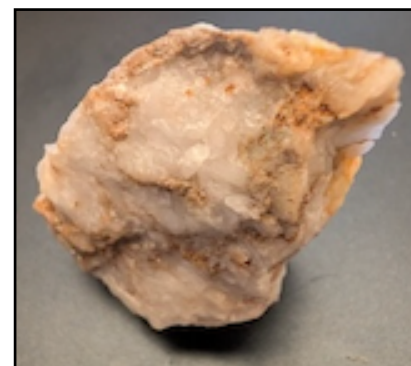
o Marcia Binda

Imagine your twelve year old son returning from fishing and handing you a pretty yellow stone found in the stream. Imagine it making a nifty doorstep for three years. It turns out that the 17 pound stone. Conrad Reed discovered on his father's farm was, as you have probably guessed, a gold nugget,

The nugget found in 1799 on John Reed's farm was identified (a whole "nuther" story) three years later, triggering the Carolina Gold Rush. This was the first documented gold rush in the United States. Interestingly, it was another boy named Peter (he was enslaved) who found a 28 pond nugget on the property.

Even though the Reed Gold Mine is no longer a major enterprise in gold mining, you can still visit it in Midland, North Carolina. It is, apparently, a popular tourist destination.

The moral of the story? I your child comes up to you and says "Mommy! Daddy! Look what I found!" maybe you should look.





FOLKLORE, MYTHS & LEGENDS



Things are seldom what they seem

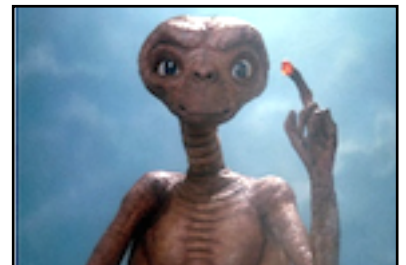
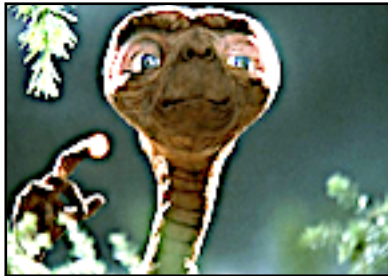
BGS EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The last line from the 1951 science fiction film "The Thing from Another World" is uttered by a war correspondent urging his audience:

"Every one of you listening to my voice, tell the world, tell this to everybody wherever they are. Watch the skies everywhere. Keep looking. Keep watching the skies!"

Over the years curious and wary movie goers have been absorbed by the possibility of potential extraterrestrial invaders. This fascination has made millions for Hollywood and entertained millions of movie-goers throughout the years.

The below rock would certainly raise questions and excitement if found by a devoted fan of the 1982 Steven Spielberg movie "**E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial.**" Could it be a fossilized alien skull?



In reality it is a weathered concretion found on the Lake Erie Shore near Wanakah New York. It was collected by Ruth and Bruce Banick, long time club members, in 2015. Over the years that it sat in their rock garden, numerous visitors commented on its similarity to the movie character ET.

Mother Nature is very adept at presenting her work in perplexing and seemingly inexplicable imagery, leaving even the most conservative imaginations to run wild. As humans, when presented with the unfamiliar, our first subconscious reaction is to find in those circumstances, images that we are accustomed to. We do not like the unknown, it threatens us and the way we see the world. We, therefore, seek to find a comfort zone, something we can explain, even if it's as unlikely as a fossilized alien skull.



“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.

We need BGS members to help make this show a continuing success. Help is needed loading the truck on the Wednesday before the show, on Friday help is needed unloading the truck, setting up display cases and putting plastic on tables, setting up the Mini-mine, putting up signs. On Saturday and Sunday help is needed at the Mini-mine, identification of specimens, admissions, the club table, the grab bag sales, and members to exhibit their specimens. Don Lapham is in charge of scheduling the exhibits in the Grange building, please contact him if you are interested.

Everyone is needed to help with publicity. The Reminder Cards 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 Halloween candy 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 icbastedo@gmail.com.

**BGS 2027 57th Gem & Mineral Show
March 20-21, 2027**

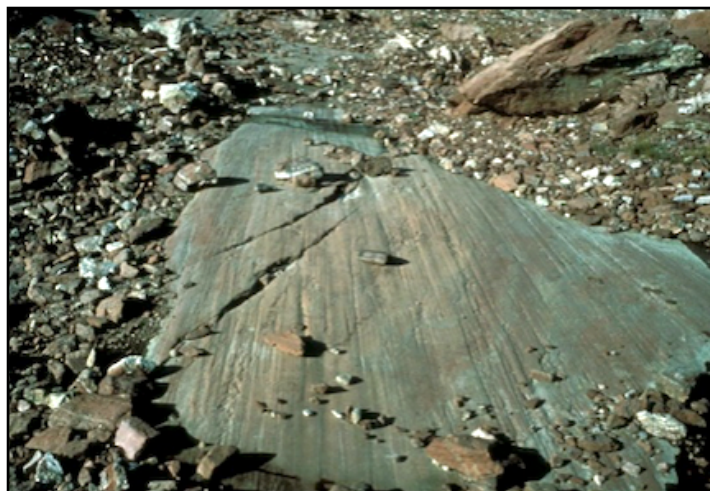


Fluorite - Penfield, NY G. LaPlaca Collection

History SEDIMENTARY STRUCTURE OF THE MONTH

GLACIAL STRIATIONS

BGS EDUCATION COMMITTEE



, are often prized
and intense
despite the
being strictly

for their clarity
purple-blue color,
locality's access
limited

The peak coverage of the Laurentide Ice Sheet in Western NY occurred approximately 20,000 to 30,000 years ago. The massive glacier, began retreating around 18,000–20,000 years ago, but remained in the region until roughly 10,000 to 13,000 years ago. Dr. Herman La Roy Fairchild estimated the thickness of the ice-cap at approximately 3,000 feet. In addition to molding the landscape these glaciers left behind clues as to their flow path through the area.

These **GLACIAL STRIATIONS** that were left behind are scratches cut into the bedrock by glacial abrasion. Large amounts of coarse gravel and boulders carried along underneath the glacier provide the abrasive power to cut the grooves and scrapings. They form best on hard, rock surfaces, that are resistant to erosion, and will preserve the scratches. These straight, and parallel lines, represent the direction of movement of the glacier.

These scratches were first recognized as the result of a moving glacier in the late 18th century by Swiss alpine climbers.

Locally, the best place to view these structures is the New Enterprise Stone & Lime Company quarry in Cheektowaga, NY. Many casual observers initially connect these with scratches made by heavy quarry equipment and not Mother Nature.



Cartoon from MSDC web site.
From The RockCollector 9/22

Events Page

o Craig Posmantur

BGS Annual Family Picnic: September 12th

The picnic was a great success. The variety of foods that were on display was nothing short of overwhelming. As I was manning the grill, I saw dish after dish being brought to the tables for all to enjoy. It never ceases to amaze me as to the culinary skills of the BGS members. We could start our own restaurant. The 45 or so members that showed appeared to have a good time and relished in checking out the specimens that were on display

from the trunks of various cars and SUVs. We even got a new member that day and he jumped right in to showcase some minerals that he had inherited.



Sandy Drabek arranging food tables.

Craig Postmantur
the Grill Master!

BGS members enjoying their food



BGS members enjoying their food



Dale Russell at Tailgating.



Chris Boyd tailgating.

Events Page

Craig Posmantur

Reinstein Woods Fall Fest: September 19th

The 26th annual Fall Fest was a bit different than in years past. This year the Reinstein staff held several tours along the trails that permeate the park as well as having demonstrations conducted by the DEC and NYS Parks Commission. I have also set up a meeting with Reinstein Woods regarding the possibility of incorporating the Fall Fest with the Earth Science Day that was started by Jerold Bastedo at Penn Dixie years ago. The number of people that show up every year keeps increasing, so I hope this joint activity can come to pass, Fingers crossed.



Editor's Note

The Buffalo Geological Society has had a long illustrious history and many great members in the past who shared their geological knowledge and experiences with other BGS members at BGS monthly meetings and in the Geoletter. Their contributions of their knowledge to the BGS membership and their commitment to being leaders and officers in the BGS has made it the success that is now.

The "Fossilized" News that is being reprinted in Geoletter is to reintroduce them to the current BGS membership and to showcase who they were and the knowledge that they shared.

It is up to you the current members of the Buffalo Geological Society to keep this great tradition moving forward. GET INVOLVED! Think about being board members, participating in BGS events, giving talks at monthly meetings, and submitting articles to the Geoletter (monthly mineral & fossil of the month spotlights, other rockhounding experiences).

"Fossilized" News

From Geoletter 3/1990

HAMBURG PENN-DIXIE QUARRY SITE IS THREATENED

The Town of Hamburg continues to look at the old Penn-Dixie Quarry as a possible additional phase to the current Ravenwood Industrial Park. A grass-roots effort by local citizens has caused the Town and especially the Department of Industrial and Community Development to have second thoughts about its development. Because of public support and letters to the Town by various teachers, geologists, educators, etc., it has been decided to carefully review the future of this property. Perhaps it could be saved for "green-space" and as a fossil collecting site for one and all.

Therefore the Town issued a Request for Proposals from consultant engineering companies to document its valued history as a one-of-a-kind collecting area, as a special resource. By doing a literature review of all publications, a property survey, a site reconnaissance to identify the specific areas of fossil interest, followed by a final report and a Full Environmental Impact Statement, the Town of Hamburg will know its limit or full potential as another industrial development.

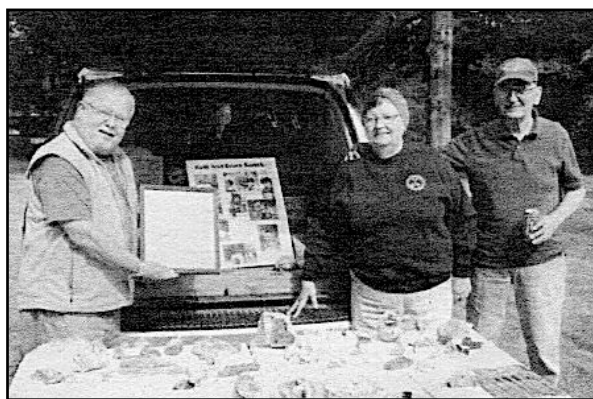
The engineering firm of URS Consultants has been selected and is about to start work. When the required work is completed and the Full Environmental Impact Statement is submitted and accepted, we will then know if one of the best-known and classic spots in Western New York for collecting fossils, visited by hundreds of school kids each year, continues to be threatened and possibly lost under concrete, asphalt, and grass, or will be saved.

We will keep you posted as to developments

"Fossilized" News

From Geoletter 10/2010

President, Bob Hoffman presents Life Membership to Bruce and Ruth Banick at this year's picnic in recognition for their many years of service to Buffalo Geological Society.

**"Fossilized" News**

From Geoletter 1/2002

Editors Note: "Fossilized News" articles are reprinted as is, any contact information is NOT VALID. Things change over time and they either moved or are deceased

**BGS SPOTLIGHT****MARVIN H. HESS**

Marv is one of those members who have been around for years and if you need a question answered on silver or minerals of any kind, he's the one you ask. He also has given many mineral talks at our BGS meetings.

Now in his own words:

Hello: I am past President and past everything that has to do with the Geological Society. I was early on fascinated by the round pebbles on the beach. A fellow classmate Raymond Hibbard showed me his father's mineral collection and I was hooked. His father was into thin sectioning of minerals which you will have to look up to understand. I joined the BGS in 1958 and at my first meeting I thought all the people there were professors, but it turned out they were just plain "rock hounds" who were glad to share their experiences, and so it is today.

Schooled as an electronic technician I was with a radar outfit in North Africa and Italy during the war. I am an amateur radio operator and officer of several associated clubs. Besides minerals I collect old radios and what-ever.

I am now retired but I still welcome interested persons to view my collections. The minerals are housed in five multi drawer cabinets that I built. I also built, with help, the display cabinets used at our annual show. When collecting mineral in so many places, you get to meet many new friends, learn from their experiences and improve your own knowledge. But best of all you partake of nature and flavor the flora and fauna. The memories of breaking into your first Herkimer quartz crystal pocket or unearthing a prize mineral specimen will live with you forever. Remember you can't take it with you so trade or give away minerals to anyone, especially youngsters who show an interest in geology. They could be our future Geological Society President. Good Hunting.

If you want to learn more about what this retired, widower has to offer you can reach him at LOCKPORT CYBER SPACE at www.Lockport-NY.com where he is a consulting mineralogist or at his Elma home. He has an entire mineral collection for sale, plus Herkimer's for swap or sale.

Marv, we are glad to have such a nice gentleman as you for a BGS member.

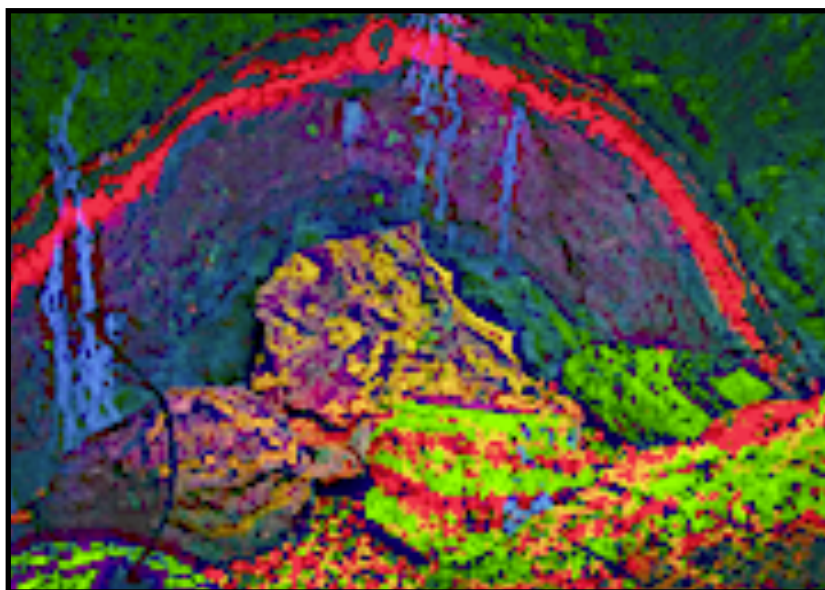
"Fossilized" News

From Geoletter 11/1990

STERLING HILL UPDATE

As the curtain lifts on a new chapter in the lengthy history of the Sterling Mine in Ogdensburg, New Jersey, the Hauck brothers Richard and Robert, who last year privately acquired the mine, see the water level rising. The Haucks and many dedicated volunteers have provided herculean efforts to recover equipment and minerals from the depths of the mine. On the surface they have uncovered artifacts and old workings and have created paths to and through the Passaic open pit to connect to a newly blasted and open tunnel. They have created an attractive entrance and gift shop to welcome all. A unique experience awaits visitors, including an informative tour underground to the "Rainbow Room" spectacular where minerals are fluoresced in situ. The tour ends at the Mine Museum where ore cars, crushers, mine lamps, and many mineral displays educate all to Sterling Hill mining.

The Haucks and volunteers continue to work very long hours to recover equipment and minerals from the depths of one of the oldest mines in the United States. Even as the water rose to flood the 1000' level, fluoborite was discovered and preserved. On the 900' level, realgar and mcgovernite have been rediscovered. Specimens of realgar, mcgovernite, hedenbergite, chabazite, barite, wollastonite, and some of the best ever found stilbite have been preserved in the Mine Museum. In October of 1990 the 900' level was flooded. Even as you read this update sand taling used for backfill in the stopes are resettling and moving to lower regions in the mine, accelerating the rise in water level. While the water rises and removes forever our opportunity to study and



preserve this unique mineral and mining history the Haucks endeavor to secure the right to pump out the water and historically register the mine site for future generations.

We have therefore established a trust fund for the purpose of raising the \$50,000 required to start up the pumps to prevent water from claiming the mine. It is also hoped that once the pumps are working the water level will fall and more of the history of Sterling Hill will be revealed.

Editors Note: The offer below has expired long-ago and is only reprinted for reference.

The Committee for Historic Preservation of the Sterling Hill Mine has been authorized to make the following offer.

For the sum of \$25.00 collectors can receive a small cabinet size specimen of recently recovered fluorescent minerals to make a special addition to your collection and, at the sometime, know that you are contributing to preserve a piece of Natural History. Those who are able to contribute larger sums will receive appropriate specimens for their collection.

Please support this worthwhile effort to save this geologically significant and unique mine with your contributions To order your piece of history please select from one of the following minerals and forward your remittance of \$25.00 plus \$3.95 shipping and handling to: (NJ. residents please add \$1.50 sales tax): **SAVE THE MINE**, c/o Charles B. Ward, C.P.A. - Trustee, 56 Chambers Road, Danbury, CT 06811

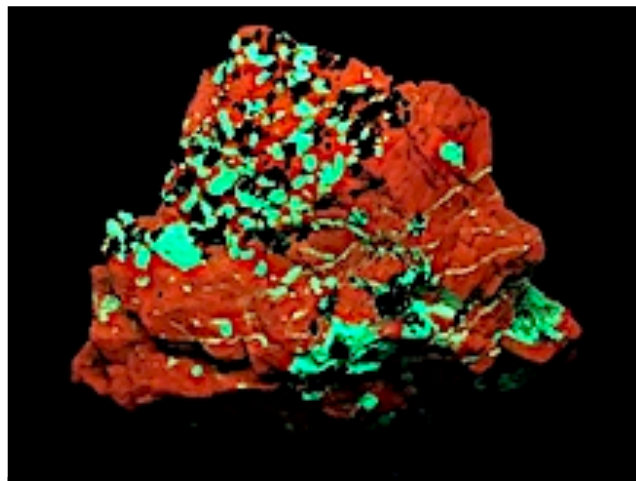
SELECT ONE FOR EACH \$25.00 CONTRIBUTION

- 1) **FLUORESCENT WILLEMITE-CALCITE** 1000' level
- 2) **ZINCITE** 1100' level
- 3) **FLUORESCENT WOLLASTONITE.** 340' level

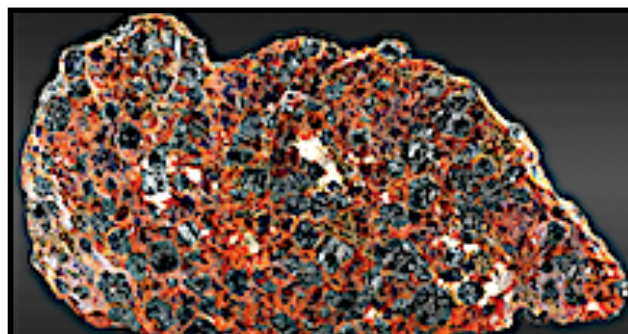
PLUS - A CERTIFICATE STATING MINERAL TYPE, MINE LOCATION, NAME, AND DATE... ALSO - ONE FREE \$6.50 PASS FOR A TOUR OF STERLING HILL MINE

Plan a visit to the mine located at 30 Plant Street, Ogdensburg, New Jersey, 07439, (201) 209-7212.

By the Commtee for Historic Preservation of Sterling Hill Minc: Gary Grenier, Steve Misiur, Dan Russell, Charles B. Ward



Fluorescent Willemite & Calcite



Zincite



Fluorescent Wollastonite

"Fossilized" News

From Geoletter 5/1990

DINOSAUR OF THE MONTH

by Rick Bett

This Month's Feature: - *PACHYCEPHALOSAURUS*

This medium-sized plant-eating dinosaur (about 20 feet) is one of several that have an unusually thick skull. Several people are now suggesting that this feature may have been used in head-butting, either for defense or to establish social status. A very small relative of this dinosaur, *Micropachycephalosaurus*, was one of the smallest dinosaurs, and could have it in your backpack!

**Buffalo Geological Society Coming Events**

October 2 - BGS Meeting 7:30 pm - speaker is Carl Fechko, "Scuba Diving for Fossils", 100 Lee Street, Buffalo, NY

October 3 & 4 - Enchanted Mountain gem, Mineral & Fossils Show; from 10 am to 5 pm daily. Located at Pock City Park, 505 A Rock City Road (Rt. 16) Olean, NY

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

October 24 & 25 - Rochester Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show & Sale sponsored by the Rochester Lapidary Society. Sat. 10 am -6 pm, Sun. 10 am -5 pm. 435 West Commercial St., east Rochester, NY 14446. Off the 490 Interstate.

October 28 - BGS Fellowship Meeting 8:35 am, Don Lapham Collecting in Missouri, Masonic Temple, 641 Sweet Home Rd, Amherst, NY

November 6 - BGS Meeting 7:30 pm - Speaker to be announced 100 Lee Street, Buffalo, NY

November 7 & 8 - DINO Fest, Buffalo Museum of Science 7:30 pm - Speaker to be announced, 100 Lee Street, Buffalo, NY

November 12 - BGS Board Meeting 7:00 pm, 100 Lee Street, Buffalo, NY

November 25 - BGS Fellowship Meeting 8:35 am, Glen LaPlaca Collecting in South Dakota, Masonic Temple, 641 Sweet Home Road, Amherst, NY

November 26 - HAPPY THANKSGIVING

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

Club Officers

- **President:**
 - Craig Posmantur
716-834-8935
- **Vice President**
 - Joe Sullivan
716-823-8371
- **Treasurer:**
 - Chris Boyd
716-291-1865
- **Secretary:**
 - Zeena Pawlicki
716-536-1969\
- **Show Chairmen:**
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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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