

SE Massachusetts Mineral Club



April 2022



Denali



Please join us

FOR A CELEBRATION OF LIFE HONORING

Shannon Haley Wilbur

SAT MAY 14, 2022

DIAMOND ACRES

1706 STONE ARABIA RD, FONDA NY

*Please bring a dish and/or a Raffle Item
All proceeds to be donated to
Shannon's Husband Donny Wilbur*

OutCroppings

April 2022

Incorporated April 8, 1970

Meetings held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30pm
(excluding July and August)

Meetings are held at the Rockland Eagles Hall
29 Park Street, Rockland, MA 02370

Next Meeting April 14, 2022

President: Walter Schell wschell1191@gmail.com

Vice President: Steve Kimbal steve@kimbalpainting.com

Secretary: Sara Ostrander naturespeaks2you@gmail.com

Treasurer: Dr. Robert Chasen drchasen@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor: Larry Ryan zone859@verizon.net



A Message from our President Walter Schell

To all the members who are tired of digging in their boxes of last season's spoils , we are finally getting back to new digs. We still have a few more weeks before we loose the last of the snow upcountry, but local digging is here.

In the interim , please join us for our **April Meeting**, I guarantee you will have a great time!! Bring a few spare dollars for the **Chinese Auction**,some great items to be had for the price of a few tickets and bring a wrapped gift for the **Yankee Swap**.

You may not get what you want but you will get what you need , a fun time had by all !!

Looking forward to seeing you all,
Warmest regards,

Walter

A Message from our Editor

Greetings!

March Meeting a complete success! New members! Great presentation by Martin, along with Diamond Bob, and President Walter Schell our Herkimer Specialists! By the time you read this we shall already have been out digging. Stay tuned to what we collect. See You at the April Meeting.

Larry

April Meeting to be Party Meeting!

Yankee Swap and Chinese Auction

Food! Good Times! New Friends!

Read about it in the Members Section!

Message from our Secretary

Website Announcement:

Here is the current version of our website. I'm hoping to have that end piece taken off and our final version ready for launch

<https://southeastmmc.wixsite.com/my-site-1>

This is an "in-progress" work of art that provides the framework of the club with much more to come. On the club site, you'll see the membership form that can either be filled out and brought to the meeting or returned by mail. We also have paper copies on hand at the meeting. If you are in the facebook group but have not yet joined the club, this is an excellent time to dive in as trips will begin soon.

April Meeting Announcement:

If you have never been to a meeting, we start each one off with a quick introduction (a little business) and then the fun! Each month there is an educational presentation as well as a raffle, tickets are low cost and funds go directly to our scholarship efforts. Bring a few dollars with you to the meeting to possibly leave with... more rocks! Our April meeting will be packed with fun - including our **Chinese Auction** and **Yankee Swap**.

Chinese auction tickets are low cost to get some great pieces - all while building our scholarship fund. Bring those dollahs!! The Yankee Swap will be a gift value of \$15-\$20. Bring your gift wrapped. This can be anything but as a little hint... people love tools

This will be our "mini version" of our Christmas Party and will be offering light snacks and non-alcoholic drinks. We encourage everyone to come down and join the fun. If you are not a member and have questions, please reach out to one of the officers.
See you next month if not sooner!

Sara

Members Exploring the Southwest
Ask Mary Ryan about her cross country drive.
Ask Steve Kimball and Dan Ryan about their Arizona Trips



Want to guess what this is?



[SEMMC Facebook Page](#)

Keep in touch with our Facebook Page to get the sudden additions to the digging schedule!

Field Trip Agenda

Field collecting trips are open to SEMMC members only, as our insurance policy covers members only. Please bring your SEMMC Membership card with you.

All participants of field trips are required to contact trip leaders at least 48 hours in advance of trip date.

Schedules may change. Please contact the host to confirm date, time and details.

Some trips may be eliminated, added, or altered depending on weather and other circumstances.

However, please remember we do have a club claim in Fonda, NY and it is open year-round, weather permitting.

The Club Rules for our claim can be found on the website.

Mineral of the Month

Fluorite



Fluorite is an important industrial mineral composed of calcium and fluorine (CaF_2). It is used in a wide variety of chemical, metallurgical, and ceramic processes. Specimens with exceptional diaphaneity and color are cut into gems or used to make ornamental objects.

Fluorite is deposited in veins by hydrothermal processes. In these rocks it often occurs as a gangue mineral associated with metallic ores.

Fluorite is also found in the fractures and cavities of some limestones and dolomites. It is a very common rock-forming mineral found in many

parts of the world. In the mining industry, fluorite is often called "fluorspar."



Fluorite Cleavage

In 1852, George Gabriel Stokes discovered the ability of specimens of fluorite to produce a blue glow when illuminated with light, which in his words was "beyond the violet end of the spectrum." He called this phenomenon "fluorescence" after the mineral fluorite. The name gained wide acceptance in mineralogy, gemology, biology, optics, commercial lighting, and many other fields. (See photo pair for an example of fluorite fluorescence in tumbled stones.)

Fluorite typically glows a blue-violet color under short-wave ultraviolet and long-wave ultraviolet light. Some specimens are known to glow a cream or white color. Many specimens do not fluoresce. Fluorescence in fluorite is thought to be caused when trace amounts of yttrium, europium, samarium, or other elements substitute for calcium in the fluorite mineral structure.



This possible fluorite piece was found at the quarry in Lunenburg by a Worcester Mineral Club member who was digging along side us.



Jeweler's can do many things with fluorite because of it's MOHS of about 4 and it's ease of faceting. However Club President Walter Schell says that they look good at first but because of the 4MOHS the pieces break down and lose their appeal.



When traveling around the country
And you want a place to prospect,

Go to

www.mindat.org

Member's Corner

Welcome New Members!



Winter is out and digging season is here.

Come and Jump right in!

Hello to all the new members of OUR CLUB! Make sure you attend the monthly meetings. There are stories to be told, information to be gathered, raffles to be won, guest speakers, What we dig, Where we dig and How we dig are all discussed with our senior members. Be there!

SEMMC Monthly Meeting Minutes

NOVEMBER 11, 2021

24 physical members / 0 member via zoom

Total of 24 members (1) non-member, guest speaker Tony = 25 in attendance

Meeting Called to Order @ 7:45pm

Treasury Report - (Approved)

Main Account \$12,750.89

Scholarship Account \$1,876.06

Secretary Report - (Approved)

First Order of Business

Membership Cards - cards are in, see Dr. Bob if you do not have a membership card

Insurance

Grace Period extended until February 15th 2022

Dan in contact with who issues certificates

Scholarships

Information regarding scholarships to be clarified by Walter at BSU Geology

Questions:

- 1. Does the 1k scholarship have to be divided into (2) \$500 amounts?**
- 2. Is the scholarship money applied to upcoming classes or college debt?**
- 3. How do we maintain the control of the scholarship and how it is applied?**
- 4. Do we issue a letter of intention when we issue the scholarships?**

Other question for BSU - any change in meeting location agenda? Will we be able to meet at

the college again the future? Rule changes, etc? Walter to confirm

Herkimer Club Claim Update

Claim has been winterized *digging is year round weather permitting*

Plan for a new sign

Follow up regarding a bobcat to clear some of the wall debris

Club Auction

Deposit has already been given to KOA Whitman - Walter to check on confirming date

Begin forming an Auction committee

Banking Questions

What is the fee for a card reader through the bank for a non-profit?

Do we want to accept other forms of payment such as paypal? What is the fee for non-profit?

Today's Speaker - Tony Mariano, rare earth minerals, minerals of Mountain Pass

Meeting called to Close @ 8:40pm

Shirts are in!



So your choices are...

SMALL - pink with black ink OR orange with black ink

MEDIUM - pink/black OR blue/white;

LARGE - pink/black OR blue/black
X LARGE - pink/black OR blue/white
XX LARGE - blue/white

New Members join!

Thanks to the EBoard for projecting a positive image of our Club! Comraderie is now the go to word. We share what we know with other Club Members, and we ask that you not share some locations with the general public, but keep them in the Family!

Most pictures used in the Newsletter come from our members! Thanks to all that share their pictures with the Club!



Patrick MacDonald of Mt. Mica fame joins the family!

Mt. Mica is home to a lot of different tourmalines. You want in? Look me up on the Facebook Page! Or come to the meetings and we can meet.



Members Jill Jordan and Dan Ryan buy acres of land in Arizona covered in Fire Agates! See Dan or Jill about details!



They will take you to new heights in the collector's game!



No mountain is too high! Mary thought she heard the Opera in the distance. It was me screaming in fear!



The View from Jill's Hill!

Badlands



The Earth's Geologic History laid out before us!

Traveling across the west, **Ron Swart** and his wife are gathering some nice specimens. He will be sending things back for us to share. Thanks Ron!



Lots of beautiful specimens to see and share at each meeting.



Herkimers Galore!

Lots of Raffle prizes! Official and unofficial!



How about fossils? You want to know some good spots? We have a few to share



Meetings last about 2 hours and the time flies by.

See You **April 14, 2022**

MEMBERS MOMENTS

New Club E-Mail Address

southeastmmc@gmail.com

[SEMMC FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

[SEMMC Website](#)

Southeastern Massachusetts Mineral Club



Memberships run from August 1st to July 31

\$20.00 per Family per year Dues

And for that money, you are a fully insured Club Member, access to a wealth of mineral knowledge, Club digs, are held at some of the best quarries in New England, 10 scheduled Meetings per Year, September

to June where knowledge and information are exchanged freely. New members learn the What, Where, How and When. Come to the next meeting and see.

“Hey, I found this “Rock”

What is it?



Come Join Us and find out!

Scouting for new spots

We are always looking for new areas to collect from. If you are sitting at home with nothing to do, log on and find out about the history of mining in your area. Many old and abandon quarries and mines still exist throughout our region. Also there are many “ancient” sites that hold evidence of the indigenous peoples that were living here and quite

possibly Viking Settlements that were here before Columbus in 1492. Take a look and see what you can find. Send me any info you have and I will publish it so all Club Members will know.

Larry

[Golden Valley, Arizona](#)



Open Skies!

A Hill of Standing Stones?



[Palo Duro Canyon](#)

Membership Form

Your dues help keep us going. Dues pay for the newsletter, correspondence, refreshments, speakers, and a host of other expenses. Dues are as follows:

-Individual Membership \$15.00 Yearly Dues with e-mail newsletter-

-Family Membership * \$20.00 Yearly Dues with e-mail newsletter-

*** Family Membership must list all family members as of September 1 of the membership year.**

Tear off and return with your payment made out to SEMMC, Inc.

Date _____

Name(s) _____

Children _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip code _____

Phone(s) _____

Email address _____

Southeastern Massachusetts Mineral Club

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