

# PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWS



April, 2020 Volume 128, Number 4

## A View From the Top

by Karenne Snow, President



'Shelter in Place'... 'Social Distancing'... 'Working from Home' ...wait, I've been doing that one for a few years!... How's it going for you in this new reality?

Life is changing rapidly right now. What I write today and is printed next week might have no relevance to our life when you read it. It is a mere snapshot in time.

In the space of a week before St Patrick's Day, we cancelled a regular Society meeting and a board meeting and cancelled the annual show. My Leidy Society Micromount Symposium was held with no more than a dozen people, but the regular meeting was subsequently cancelled. One local field trip was cancelled but another might be on because social distancing can be practiced easily. My vending days have ground to a halt for the next month.

Good thing I can't go anywhere; I won't have enough money for gas!

In an instant, my list of things-to-do has changed.

I'm not going to the (closed until April 18) library to print things out from the computer - - instead I'm reading 30 year old back issues of Rocks and Minerals and happily discovering some classic minerals and mineralogists.

My book group and writers workshop held at a book store are cancelled - - instead of preparing for them,

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Upcoming Programs

by Bruce T. Mitchell, Program Chair

### April 9, 2020

- Program: Stan Mertzman presenting a lecture on "Crystallography as applied to Mineralogy."

### May 14, 2020

- Program: Jack Rudnicki will speak on the mineral economics of Central PA.
- Rock talk on Wissahickon Schist by Karenne Snow.

### June 11, 2020

- Program: Annual Auction The Society will hold its annual club auction. Now is the time to cull your collection and donate your surplus specimens to the club for sale at the auction.

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## Club News



### **APRIL'S MEETING CANCELED -Karenne**

In the spirit of caution and concern for everyone, and due to the guidelines of New Jersey and Philadelphia and Montgomery counties, we are cancelling April's member meeting. Cathedral Village is also still closed to outside events.

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING NOTES - Karenne**

The Board met on Sunday March 22 with 7 members skyping/phoning in to John.

We are encouraging everyone to keep up with Society news through our newsletter (ably edited by Scott Peters), our web page (maintained by Joel Sloane) and the facebook page (announcements posted by Nancy Stephanos.) If you're on a solitary walk-about and happen to notice anything geological, send a story to me and I'll forward it to the pop-up field trip list.

The primary topic of our meeting was the Show. Our contract and payments for LuLu Shriners Temple stay in place for 2021, March 27 & 28. The cost of cancelling this year's show will be totaled as soon as all receipts are in.

### **WILD ACRES SCHOLARSHIP**

Wild Acres (or Wildacres) is a week-long program at a retreat center in Little Switzerland, North Carolina. The Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies offers two sessions each year for participants to take part in lapidary and geology classes. One of our former presidents, Merrill Dickinson, is an enthusiastic supporter of Wild Acres and introduced several of us to it on a field trip to North Carolina about a decade ago.

And in 2019, Vince Albicelli received PMS' first-ever scholarship to a Wild Acres week! He and Pam Pollister attended in May and presented our January program on their experiences with silver-smithing, faceting, and the workshops' wonderful setting.

The Executive Committee offers a scholarship for this year's Wild Acres workshops in either May or September. The dates and information are on the EFMLS website. Please send a letter of application for the scholarship to Karenne. We will send you the check to go with your application.

Classes for May fill up quickly, so please get in touch soon if you are interested.

### **FIELD TRIPS**

Stay tuned! There are some field trips in the works. If one gets scheduled in between newsletters, a notice will go out to the "pop-up field trip list."

### **PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWS**

The Deadline for the newsletter is the twentieth of each month prior to publication date (i.e. Feb. 20 for March issue). Submissions should be emailed to the editor, in 11 point, Calibri font. No issues are published during July or August. Non-commercial reprint permission is hereby granted unless otherwise reserved so long as: (1) The Editor of the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society News grants written, reprint permission (2) The article is reproduced in its entirety, (3) the author of the article is credited, and (4) the source the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society News is credited. Please inform the editor of any information that you would like included in this section of the newsletter including but not limited to: birthdays, anniversaries, illnesses and members' news.

### **THE JOE POLITYKA COLLECTION**

Joe Polityka has his collection up for sale. There is an advertisement in the March April MinRec. (p389)

Contact info [ljpolit@aol.com](mailto:ljpolit@aol.com) or 917 886-2750. Under normal circumstances I would suggest a club trip to see the collection but now he MIGHT open his house up one on one. He has a mindat photo page where you can see some of his specimens. I am sure they are premium priced but the few I have seen are beautiful pieces.

## In The Field

by *Karenne Snow,*  
Field Trip Chair



### FIELD TRIP REPORT

#### Shickshinny Fossils

Five of us drove up to Shickshinny PA to Nancy's cousin's place for a fossil hunt. It was a beautiful sunny day and Jim had an outdoor fire pit going for us after we finished collecting. We warmed up by it while we ate our lunch.



The group searching the formation

The area is in a fossiliferous shale with Devonian, Mississippian, and Pennsylvanian ages all around. Brian, Chris and I wandered a bit looking for a good spot to find fossils, while Nancy sat down on an incline in just the right spot! After a bit, the formation became obvious to us. When Shana arrived we were able to show her the possibilities. The most common brachiopod looks to be *Spirifer*. We also found a number of pelecypods, mostly *Leiopteria*, and Chris and I each found a cephalopod, *Michelinoceras*. When I find the answer to my question "did *Mytilarca* live past



the Devonian" I might better be able to say whether our formation was Devonian or Mississippian/Pennsylvanian. I suspect the latter.



I washed and trimmed my finds, then coated them with a white glue and water mixture to keep the matrix from flaking apart. (Photo: my virtual show-n-tell flat.)

Thanks, Jim! Thanks, Nancy! We had a great time.

*(Continued from page 1)*

I'm preparing some thumbnails and micromounts for my collection. Lee T would be so proud of me for finally getting around to doing that.

My local tavern/restaurant is closed to in-place gatherings - - instead I'm chatting to my rocks (opening the flats so they can talk back) and doing some much needed organizing and cleaning out in the solitary confines of my storage unit. All those little things I was putting off since there are always so many interesting things to do in life.

Hang in there, everyone. Try to stay healthy, be careful, and be creative with your new-found time. Reach out to others for assistance if this new reality has you staggering with no job, no funds, no support. Give what you can - we are all neighbors.

*Karenne*

## BENCH TIPS

by Brad Smith

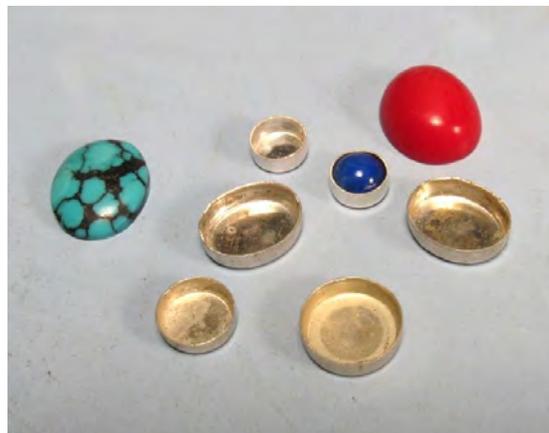
### PROBLEMS WITH SMALL DRILLS

Drilling small holes can be a problem. With drills that are less than 1mm (18 gauge or .040 inches), some chucks will not tighten down well enough to hold the drill securely.

The problem is easily solved in either of two ways - with a chuck adapter or by buying your small drills with a 3/32 inch shank size. Either way you have a large shank to be gripped in your drill press, Foredom or Dremel, so changing bits is fast and easy.



in the cup, particularly around the bottom. The bottom corners of a stamped cup are much more rounded than a bezel you would fabricate yourself. This causes a problem with stones that have a sharp edge around the bottom. Burnishing the bezel over one of these stones will place a lot of stress on the stone and may cause it to crack. To avoid this, I round off the bottom edge of the stone with a diamond file (or use sandpaper on soft stones).



### PRE-MADE BEZEL CUPS

As a general rule of thumb I assume it's going to take me 15 - 20 minutes to make a bezel for an ordinary cabochon, so for some projects buying pre-made cups can save a lot of time. But if you go this route, keep in mind three things.

First, try to get cups made from fine silver, not sterling. Fine silver is softer and burnishes over the stone more easily.

Second, you may have trouble matching the shape and size of the stone with the shape and size of the bezel cup. Purchased cups can only be found in a limited number of standard sizes. You may have to adjust your choice of gemstone to match the cup. The other consideration is that pre-made cups often have fairly low side walls. While these are fine for low-dome stones, they're not dependable for stones with steep-side walls.

Lastly before setting, check the fit of your gemstone

Work Smarter & Be More Productive With Brad's "How To" Jewelry Books

[Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)

## Secretary's Desk

*Nancy Stephanos, Secretary*



### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING of The Philadelphia Mineralogical Society, a Pennsylvania Nonprofit Corporation

Due to the Covid 19 Pandemic, no General membership meeting was held in March or April, 2020. Additionally, the Philadelphia Mineral show was also cancelled.



## Your Federation is with you at this time.

***You are receiving this as an Officer of your Mineral Society and it's affiliation with the EFMLS. Please feel free to forward to your members.***

On behalf of the Eastern Federation, I wanted to reach out to all of our valued affiliate members at this time regarding our current state of the world. The big rock we call Earth doesn't seem so big anymore. The COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus will likely be hitting home very soon if it hasn't already. My thoughts and prayers are with you all!

As most of you are aware, the majority of the roughly 10,000 members that make up all 112 EFMLS Societies are in the high risk population age demographic. We hope that everyone takes personal responsibility in exercising caution and care by adhering to the CDC Recommendations and all Public Health Guidelines.

Two weeks ago on March 11, when the WHO declared the coronavirus a world pandemic, I announced the cancellation of the March EFMLS Annual Convention that was scheduled for this coming weekend. A difficult decision indeed, especially given that the state of the spread was essentially microscopic at that time. But here we are today. Your safety and wellbeing to me has always been paramount.

What else can us Rockhounds do?

- **No shows, no meetings, and possibly no field trips** for our Societies in the foreseeable future. The Federation is exploring ways we might come together online. I'm sure we could all use a mineral fix (or several) in the coming period as a distraction from the world. We are open to suggestions, whether or it be a Zoom online meeting or recommended videos to share and watch online. We would like to hear from you.

- **Consider helping a cause.** I made a donation to [nokidhungry.org](http://nokidhungry.org) to help kids get meals they are now not getting at school. Since our youth is our future for our Societies, seemed rather fitting.

- **Reach out to your fellow members.** Check in with them. See how they are doing and if they need anything you could possibly provide for them- while keeping yourself safe. Just a phone call, email or even a text. How good does it feel when we connect?

*And for those who need some rock fodder....*

[atlasobscura.com/places/hall-of-curious-stones](http://atlasobscura.com/places/hall-of-curious-stones)

## ***Remember, we are all in this together!***

**David Nock**  
EFMLS President

**EFMLS Communications**

*in partnership with* Breaking Rock News

## SAFETY MATTERS THE SPEED OF SAFETY

by Ellery Borow, EFMLS/AFMS Safety Chairman

When I ask folks about the speed of safety, I usually receive odd looks in return. Indeed, the question may be divided into two parts. The first part of the issue is about the time it takes to set up an accident.

How long does it take to assemble all the necessary bits of an accident? Let us assemble a simple accident: Get the coffee, place the coffee by the cabbage machine, turn the machine on, crack the cooling water drip line valve, the machine reaches working speed, touch the dopped stone, the first wheel and boom, the awkward position of one's elbow knocks the coffee into ones lap. I'm rather unamused as the coffee is piping hot. Air turns several shades of blue. The accident is over and it is mostly pride that is hurt, clothes to launder..., and the wallet emptier because that was an expensive latté. Elapsed time for the accident's set-up was perhaps 10 minutes. There is no standard timetable for accident preparation. Assembling all its bits may take seconds — or years.

The second part of the issue is about the speed of safety's accidents. In the above accident, the latte in the lap took perhaps a second of time. A misdirected hammer strike landing on a knuckle, the necktie caught in the elevator door, the trip one makes on an electrical cord run along the gem show floor, the spill of rock cleaning chemistry on the clothes, the breaking of the rock collecting bag strap all take mere seconds. The speed of safety, the accident part, is usually rather short, in the blink of an eye short.

When one looks at the discrete and separate parts that make up the accident, they may or may not actually lead to an accident. Instead, it often takes one additional ingredient — the catalyst. The reaction time with any of the preceding parts is usually not an issue, the reaction time to the catalyst is vital. Suppose the latte cup could have been caught with the spilling of nary a drop, the hammer strike been quickly re-directed, or the trip recovered without a fall, while good reaction times might not prevent

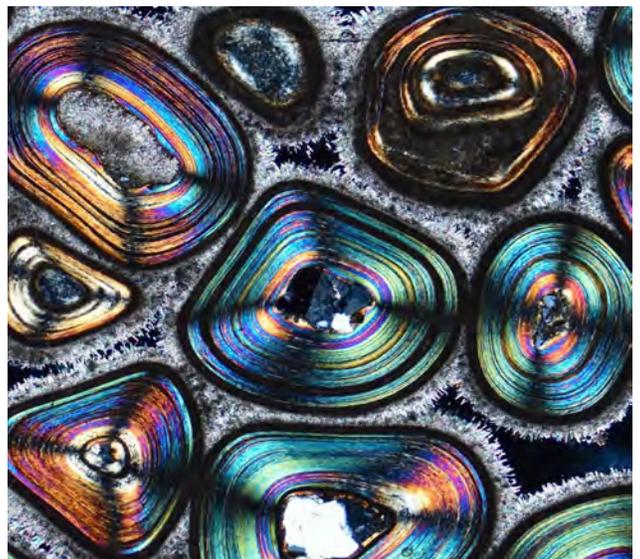
the accident, they could mitigate the worst of the effects.

True, it is best in matters of safety, to evaluate potential hazards, questionable situations, and likely outcomes regarding safety outlooks. It may also be wise to also be aware of one's own abilities, limits, and tiredness with regard to safety matters. To further the thought, the reaction times in common activities such as driving a vehicle have been extensively studied. To summarize, in many of those studies, it appears we often think we are more capable than is actually the case. One particular area of concern is tiredness. Tiredness is a frequent contributor to breakdowns of proper safety measures. Tiredness is a frequent contributor to many situations and oft times not favorably.

The final comment is to, please, remain vigilant with ensuring all aspects of being safe because your safety matters.

*Reprinted by permission from the EFMLS News Volume 67, Number 5, March 2020.*

### AROUND THE WEB



Photomicrograph of a thin section of Karlsbad Sprudelstein, a rare sedimentary rock with oolites made of aragonite. it is just fantastic under the microscope.

## Uniform Rules: You've Decided To Exhibit, What Now?

By Leslie Wayment SFMS Representative to the AFMS Uniform Rules Committee

You've decided to exhibit, and you know what subdivision to enter. All your specimens are ready. Now what do you do? It's time to work on your display case. While it is better for you to have your own case, that is not always possible, especially when you are exhibiting far away from home and might be borrowing a case. Where do you look for information on cases?

Two excellent sources for information are found on the SFMS website. On the home page, in the top left-hand block under publications, click on the SFMS Publications Webpage. Then click on SFMS Display Showmanship for Prize Winning Exhibits. [http://www.amfed.org/sfms/pdf/SFMS\\_Publications/SFMS\\_Display\\_Showmanship\\_for\\_Prize\\_Winning\\_Exhibits\\_by\\_Jessie\\_Chittenden.pdf](http://www.amfed.org/sfms/pdf/SFMS_Publications/SFMS_Display_Showmanship_for_Prize_Winning_Exhibits_by_Jessie_Chittenden.pdf)

While this is an older publication, written for the California Federation, there is still a lot of excellent information about "building" the inside of a display case. Most cases I have seen are plywood boxes. Do not put your money and effort on the outside of the case. You want the viewers to look into the case, not at the case.

One area that has vastly changed since the article was written is the options for lighting. In the past, lights in the display cases produced a lot of heat, which created its own set of problems. Consider using the new CFL or LED lights available. Make sure you use Daylight bulbs. If you can find a rating of between 5,000K and 6,000K, you'll have the best light.

When you set up your display at home, keep it up for about a week. Take photos of it. Look at it each time you pass by. Tweak it. If you don't like the result, refer to your photos to put it back how you had it. When everything is set how you want it, take LOTS of photos from different angles. If you take the photos with your

cell phone, you will have them with you when you set up, but remember to delete the ones for the setup you didn't like so you won't set it up wrong.

The travel box of emergency supplies can be your best friend. Better to take too much with you than too little. Other items you may want to include are a lint roller, ruler and small drafting square.

The other article to read is from the AFMS: [http://www.amfed.org/rules/AFMS\\_Rules\\_2017\\_Updates.pdf](http://www.amfed.org/rules/AFMS_Rules_2017_Updates.pdf)

Read the general information on this page, and then read the 2002 Guidelines for Exhibitors. You will find some of the same information presented in the first article, but other information as well.

Remember, the goal of exhibiting is to show off your work, and have it judged against an ideal, not another exhibitor. The judges will point out your strengths, and areas for improvement. Even if you are a master of your craft, but have not exhibited before, you may enter as a Novice so you can improve your showmanship. Please remember, only those cases entered as Master, and receiving a score of 90 or better, may progress to be shown at the AFMS competition.

There is still time to prepare a good exhibition case and enter in the SFMS Annual Show and Meeting this October. If you aren't sure what to do, consider an educational case. These are often overlooked as a way to get your feet wet exhibiting.

*Reprinted by permission from the A.F.M.S. Newsletter Volume 73, Number 2, March 2020.*

## A History of Quartzsite, Arizona

*Kat Koch, President Cascade Mineralogical Society, Kent, WA*

The December issue of the AFMS Newsletter had a short article on the history of Quartzsite, AZ. I previously had no

*(Continued on page 8)*

idea how Quartzsite became the Mecca for recreational rockhounds every January. It really piqued my interest and I wanted to know more.

In 1856 Charles Tyson and his wife Victoria arrived in the area. In the early years of the American gold rush, panhandlers began to arrive in Arizona searching for the precious metal. Gold deposits were discovered in the desert mountains of Plomosa and Dome Rock in the area, and a boom in the mining industry followed. Charles Tyson was a miner who foresaw the mining potential of the area.

The Yavapai Indian Tribe (Mojave-Apache) resented the arrival of these white settlers. The water supply was their main target.

In 1856 Charles Tyson built his own private fort, Fort Tyson, for protection against the Indian raids. In 1864 Tyson hand dug a well. Between 1866-1867



the Tyson's Well Stage Station was built. It was a stop on the famous Butterfield Overland Mail route between Ehrenburg and Prescott, AZ and Riverside, CA. In 1875 a traveler described the place as being "the most melancholy and uninviting place that they had ever seen. It reeks of everything unclean, morally and physically." The route was used to transport not only travelers but supplies to support the miners and US Army.

Hadji Ali (1828—December 16, 1902) also known as "Hi Jolly" and "Philip Tedro", was a Turkish citizen of Greater Syria, who was among the men hired by the US Army to introduce camels as beasts of burden to transport cargo across the "Great American Desert." In 1857 the US Army brought in 77 camels for building projects as they could carry 2 to 3 times the weight of mules and could



survive on less water. Ali was the lead camel driver during the US Army's experiment with the US Camel Corps. The cost of the American Civil War resulted in Congress did no longer approving more funds for the Corps. The camels were auctioned in 1864. Ali was discharged from the U.S. Army at Camp McDowell in 1870.

He next ran a freight service between the Colorado River and the mining establishments further east, using the few camels he had purchased. His business was unsuccessful, however, and he released his camels into the desert near Gila Bend. With his camel adventures now in the past, he became a legend of sorts, talked about as a strange yet skillful and funny person running camels in the American desert. In 1880 Ali became an American citizen using his birth name Philip Tedro.

Ali was hired in 1885 by the US Army in Arizona, under the command of General George Crook during the Geronimo Campaign where he was in charge of packing mules. Later Ali moved to Quartzsite, AZ with his wife Gertrudis Serna and family. During his years as a resident of Quartzsite, he did some mining in the local mines and on occasion served as a scout for the US government. He ended his life as a failed prospector. Local merchants helped him with handouts. Congressman Mark Smith even tried to get him a pension, but since he was never an official soldier in the Calvary the paperwork wasn't processed. He died in 1902 and was buried in the Quartzsite Cemetery which was renamed the "Hi Jolly Cemetery" in 1903, in honor of Hadji Ali.

Hi Jolly lived well into his seventies. The locals were so fond of him that when he died that they spent several weeks building Hi Jolly a special pyramid tomb, made of multicolored petrified wood and quartz. It was dedicated on Jan. 4, 1903. Thirty-three years later the Arizona Highway Department came along and cemented a bronze plaque to the tomb, telling Hi Jolly's story, and topped the pyramid with a metal camel silhouette.

In 1897 there was a small mining boom. The establishment of the railroad affected the commercial aspect of

*(Continued on page 9)*

the area since most people preferred to travel by train. However, Tyson's Well stage station continued to provide rest and refreshment to travelers and freight drivers plus general supplies and mining supplies. It's reported that Tyson Wells had 3 general stores, 11 saloons, a hotel, a barber shop and a Chinese restaurant and a short lived post office. With the boom and arrival of the railroad it became necessary to reopen the post office. A new name had to be found since the post office did not permit offices to reopen under formerly used names. It was suggested the name Quartzite, since quartzite is actually found in the vicinity, but quartz is not. However, the U.S. Postal Service, in error, apparently added an "s" to the name. Today Quartzsite is approximately nine miles east of the old Tyson's Wells which lay nineteen miles from Ehrenberg. Therefore, a different name was doubly suited.

By 1900, less than 20 people lived in town. The major problem was the lack of water at the mines, which affected production. Water brought from La Paz, AZ sold for \$1 a gallon to \$5 a barrel. Most gold was recovered by primitive dry washing. From 1900 to 1960, election records listed a population from as few as 14 to a few hundred during the Depression, to 50 in 1960 on a permanent basis.

In 1936 SR95 was extended north through Quartzsite to SR72 in Bouse, AZ. It became US95 in 1960.

In 1965 the Quartzsite Improvement Association was formed with 44 members. The population of city and surrounding area was a few hundred at this time. February 1967 the first POWWOW was held in an old school building on 1 acre of ground. Historical records are not clear but it suggests 20 vendors "tailgated" outdoors with estimated attendance of 1,000. In 1968 there were 42 tailgaters outside and 242 exhibitors inside, all on 4 acres.

The shows began to bring in more people and snow-birds and the town began to grow. The population in

2019 is estimated at 3,766. Growing at approximately 100 people a year.

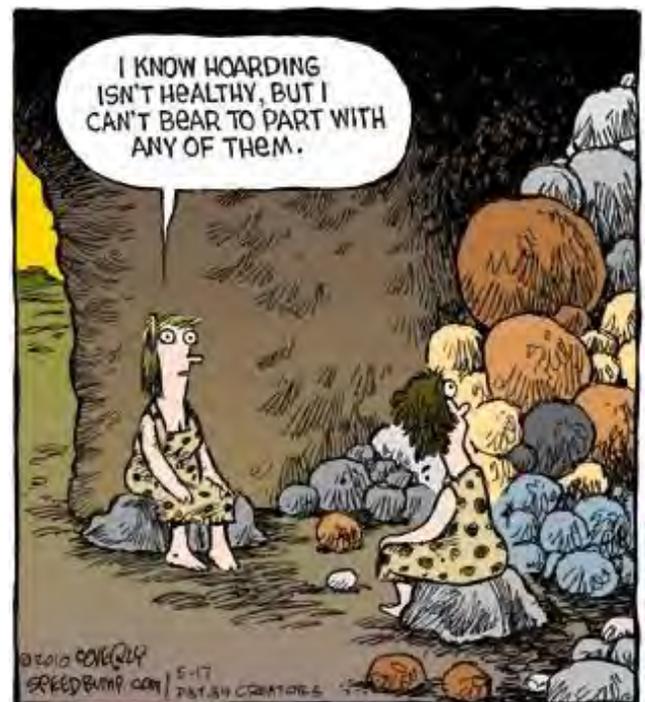
Today well over 2,000 vendors go to Quartzsite every year to sell rocks, minerals, gems, fossils, and jewelry. Setting up outside is not easy for the



dealers. Besides the unpredictable weather, dust covers everything and it is a daily, never-ending chore to keep the bins and displays clean. Vendors also have to secure their merchandise, tables, and tents every night, not only against theft but primarily against potential rain or wind damage. Altogether there are about 10 shows in Quartzsite from late December to late February. Today attendance tops well over 1 million people.

So I guess in conclusion, Quartzsite is known for three things: it's rich American history in the movement west, Hi Jolly and the Annual Quartzsite Pow-Wow.

Sources: *Source: Fort Tyson, Wikipedia, Quartzsite AZ, Wikipedia, List of historic properties in Quartzsite, AZ*



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## APRIL

- 9 **Phila. Min. Society Meeting** at 7pm. Cathedral Hall - Cathedral Village 600 E. Cathedral Road, Philadelphia, PA 19128 Program: Stan Mertzman "Considering the Formation of Natural and Artificial Magma and lava: the Cascade Mountains of the Pacific Northwest and the Armstrong Mineral Wool Plant in Millwood, West Virginia."
- 19 **PMS Board Meeting**
- 19 **Saucon Valley Lions Mineral Show**  
Saucon Valley High School. 2100 Polk Valley Rd, Hellertown, PA 18055 Hours: 10:00 - 5:00  
Contact: Amy Musser Phone: 484 554 6299  
<https://e-clubhouse.org/sites/sauconvalley/index.php>
- 25 **Super Digg - Postponed**
- 23-26 **Rochester Mineralogical Symposium**, 47th Annual Radisson Hotel Rochester Airport, 175 Jefferson Rd, Rochester, NY  
<http://www.rasny.org/minsymp/>

## MAY

- 2-3 **North Shore Rock and Mineral Club 57th Annual New England Gem & Mineral Show**. Saturday, May 2 (9:00 AM--5:00 PM), Sunday, May 3 (1:00 AM--4:00 PM), Topsfield Fairgrounds, Coolidge Hall, Route 1, Topsfield, MA (GPS: 207 Boston Street, Topsfield, MA). Free Parking. Admission \$6.00, seniors \$4.00, children under 12 free. [www.northshorerock.org](http://www.northshorerock.org) or [nsmc@verizon.net](mailto:nsmc@verizon.net).
- 14 **Phila. Min. Society Meeting** at 7pm. Cathedral Hall - Cathedral Village 600 E. Cathedral Road, Philadelphia, PA 19128 Program: Jack Rudnicki will speak on the mineral economics of Central PA.
- 23 **The Earth Science Show & Sale sponsored by The Rock and Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County, PA**. Christ United Methodist Church, 501 Wistar Road, Fairless Hills, PA 19030. Do-

nation \$2.00, children 12 and under, free. Dealer tables are currently available. For more information contact Brian Schwab at 215-788-3993 and leave a message, or via e-mail at [www.holschw2@aol.com](mailto:www.holschw2@aol.com). Visit <https://sites.google.com/view/lowerbucksparocks/home> or <https://www.facebook.com/LowerBucksPARocks/>

## JUNE

- 7 **PMS Board Meeting**
- 11 **Phila. Min. Society Meeting** at 7pm. Cathedral Hall - Cathedral Village 600 E. Cathedral Road, Philadelphia, PA 19128 Program: Annual Auction The Society will hold its annual club auction.
- 19-20 **Annual Show of the Lancaster County Fossil and Mineral Club**. Solanco Fairgrounds, Hoffman Building, 172 South Lime Street, Quarryville, PA. Friday 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM, Saturday 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Adults \$4, children (6-12) \$1, free admission for children under 6. INFO Eric Miller, [emill1960@embarqmail.com](mailto:emill1960@embarqmail.com). Visit <https://facebook.com/LancasterFossilandMineralClub>

## July

- 22-26 **NY/NJ Mineral, Fossil, Gem & Jewelry Show** at the NJ Convention & Exposition Center (a.k.a. "NJ Expo Center"), 97 Sunfield Avenue, Edison, NJ. Sponsored by **Eons Expos**. Event times: 12 PM to 8 PM Wednesday through Friday; 10 AM to 7 PM Saturday; and 10 AM to 6 PM Sunday. Parking is Free. For more details, visit:  
<http://www.ny-nj-gemshow.com/index.php>

## October

- 23-25 **EFMLS Convention 2020, Hickory, NC**, Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 outbreak, The Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club has requested that the EFMLS convention be held at the postponed date of October 23-25, 2020.

## The Tuft of Flowers

BY ROBERT FROST

I went to turn the grass once after one  
Who mowed it in the dew before the sun.

The dew was gone that made his blade so keen  
Before I came to view the levelled scene.

I looked for him behind an isle of trees;  
I listened for his whetstone on the breeze.

But he had gone his way, the grass all mown,  
And I must be, as he had been,—alone,

‘As all must be,’ I said within my heart,  
‘Whether they work together or apart.’

But as I said it, swift there passed me by  
On noiseless wing a ‘wildered butterfly,

Seeking with memories grown dim o’er night  
Some resting flower of yesterday’s delight.

And once I marked his flight go round and round,  
As where some flower lay withering on the ground.

And then he flew as far as eye could see,  
And then on tremulous wing came back to me.

I thought of questions that have no reply,  
And would have turned to toss the grass to dry;

But he turned first, and led my eye to look  
At a tall tuft of flowers beside a brook,

A leaping tongue of bloom the scythe had spared  
Beside a reedy brook the scythe had bared.

I left my place to know them by their name,  
Finding them butterfly weed when I came.

The mower in the dew had loved them thus,  
By leaving them to flourish, not for us,

Nor yet to draw one thought of ours to him.  
But from sheer morning gladness at the brim.

The butterfly and I had lit upon,  
Nevertheless, a message from the dawn,

That made me hear the wakening birds around,  
And hear his long scythe whispering to the ground,

And feel a spirit kindred to my own;  
So that henceforth I worked no more alone;

But glad with him, I worked as with his aid,  
And weary, sought at noon with him the shade;

And dreaming, as it were, held brotherly speech  
With one whose thought I had not hoped to reach.

‘Men work together,’ I told him from the heart,  
‘Whether they work together or apart.’

**THE ROCK & MINERAL CLUB  
OF LOWER BUCKS COUNTY, PA  
PRESENTS**

**THE EARTH SCIENCE SHOW & SALE**

**May 23, 2020**  
**9:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

**LOCATION:**  
Christ United Methodist Church  
501 Wistar Road  
Fairless Hills, PA 19030

**Rocks, Minerals, Fossils, Lapidary Arts, Jewelry &  
All Things Related to the Earth Sciences**

**Admission: \$2.00 Donation, Children 12 & Under Free**  
**Dealers: \$6 Table \$20**

**Registration & Prepayment for Table Space is Required**  
Send Check to: Brian Schwab, 539 Sycamore Ave., Croydon, PA 19021,  
Payable to RMCLBC. For Info. call: 215-788-3993 and leave a message



**Christ United Methodist Church**  
501 Wistar Road  
Fairless Hills, PA

**Directions:**

**From I-95 & Business Rt. 1 (Exit 44):** Take Business Rt. 1 (E. Lincoln Hwy.) east to Woodbourne Rd. (1.2 miles) turn right on Woodbourne Rd. Go (1.1 miles) to Wistar Rd. on left just past Wendy's Restaurant & Park Plaza Shopping Center. Turn left onto Wistar Rd. and proceed to Christ United Methodist Church on left (1 mile).

**From I-95 & Bristol/Rt. 413 (Exit 40):** Turn left on Rt. 413 North. Take Rt. 413 to New Falls Rd. (1.9 miles). Turn right onto New Falls Rd. East to Wistar Rd. at intersection with a Wawa store on left (2.6 miles). Turn left onto Wistar Rd. and proceed to Christ United Methodist Church on right (1/2 mile).



## THE PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY – OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

**Board of Directors****President: Karenne Snow**(609) 353-4101/[minerals.fossils.rocks@gmail.com](mailto:minerals.fossils.rocks@gmail.com)**Vice President: Vince Albicelli**(215) 257-4322/[Vince@himzuglass.com](mailto:Vince@himzuglass.com)**Secretary: Nancy Stephanos**267-456-0716/[n.stephanos@verizon.net](mailto:n.stephanos@verizon.net)**Treasurer: John Rateike**(215) 576-0741/[jdrat@comcast.net](mailto:jdrat@comcast.net)**Program Chair: Bruce Mitchell**(724) 584-6720/[btmitchell@gmail.com](mailto:btmitchell@gmail.com)**Field Trip Chair: Vacant**

(xxx) xxx-xxxx/xxxxxx@xxx.com

**Show Chair: Karenne Snow**(609) 353-4101/[minerals.fossils.rocks@gmail.com](mailto:minerals.fossils.rocks@gmail.com)**Past President: Deb Craig**(267) 334-3110 /[dmcraig2323@live.com](mailto:dmcraig2323@live.com)**Board Member at Large: Lee Mcilvaine**(215) 713-8020/[uvgeologist@yahoo.com](mailto:uvgeologist@yahoo.com)**Appointed Positions****Webmaster: Joel Sloane**(610) 238-9925/[www.philamineralsociety.org](http://www.philamineralsociety.org)**Newsletter Editor: Scott Peters**(610) 715-3693/[Slipgappms@aol.com](mailto:Slipgappms@aol.com)**Meeting Raffle Coordinator: Niki Hinkson (610) 543-4093****Field Trip Leaders:**

- Chris Duerr (610) 637-2549
- John Schmidhauser (610) 578-0446
- Karen Stauffer (215) 850-2189

**Field Trip Committee:**

- College Connection: Art Schelling (484) 412-8459
- Scout Connection: Stan Molchanow (215) 482-4015

**Annual Show Committee:**

- Deb Craig (610) 267-334-3110
- Chris Duerr (610) 637-2549
- Ed Goebel (215) 884-0384
- Doug Klieger (610) 644-2492
- Cheryl Leibold (610) 644-2492
- Don McAlarnen (610) 247-5097
- Bill Prince (215) 674-0738
- Karenne Snow (Chair) (609) 353-4101
- Pam Pollister (215) 257-4322
- John Rateike (215) 576-0741

The Philadelphia Mineralogical Society is a member of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, and has been recognized by the I.R.S. as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization incorporated in the state of Pennsylvania. The purposes of the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society are the study of the science of Mineralogy and its related subjects; to bring into a close relationship students, amateurs, professionals and others interested in Mineralogy; to provide a common meeting ground where such may be freely discussed; and to promote in general the study and progress of Mineralogy. These purposes are accomplished through general meetings, an annual show, field trips, presentations and displays. The Philadelphia Mineralogical Society meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month (with the exception of July and August) at 7:00p.m. at Cathedral Village 600 E. Cathedral Road, Philadelphia, PA 19128. Visitors are always welcome to attend general meetings. Anyone interested in joining the club may talk to any officer about the dues and membership requirements. Website: [www.phillyrocks.org](http://www.phillyrocks.org)

**PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY 2018 DUES**

Adult Life Membership	\$250.00	Senior Membership (>60 years)	15.00
Adult and Family Membership	20.00	Student/Junior Membership (valid student I.D. required)	5.00