



The PRESQUE ISLE PROSPECTOR



Official Publication of the Gem City Rock and Mineral Society of Erie, PA
Monthly Meetings, First Saturday at 9:30 AM



July 2010

Last Month's Meeting:

Last month we talked a bit more about the display of **Minerals and Their Uses**, and what other displays we would be taking to the Gem Show. We also made some other show decisions, and determined that we'd move the next meeting to June 26th, and come back July 10th to collect up all the things that need to be taken to the Arena for the Show.

This Month's Meeting:

This month our meeting will be Saturday, **June 26th**, at **9:30 AM**, at the club room at the **Renaissance Centre building at 1001 State Street in downtown Erie** (southeast corner of 10th and State Streets). To find the club rooms, go in the front revolving door of the building on State Street (just south of the nut shop, which is on the corner), and look for a stairway to the basement on the right-hand side of the lobby right before the small hallway containing the elevators. If you can't take the stairs, the third elevator goes down to the basement level. At the bottom of the stairs or the elevator, you will see the entrance to our space.

There is a parking ramp on the south side of E. 10th Street just east of the Renaissance Centre building (toward French Street), and it is free to park there most Saturdays.

We will be passing around sign-up sheets for show setup and work-time-slots for the various tasks at the Gem Show, and for who's bringing what to the Potluck Dinner for club members and dealers after the Friday setup at the Arena. So think about what you'd like to bring, keeping in mind that the club will provide Ox Roast for sandwiches, and that we will have some vegetarians who'll want something different.

We also need to do some preliminary planning for our camping Field Trip to **Crystal Grove Diamond Mine & Campground** (<http://www.crystalgrove.com/>) over the Labor Day Weekend, September 4-6 – see more on this below.

We will also plan to make another final batch of Discovery Blocks after the meeting.

Federation News:

Both the American Federation newsletter and the Eastern Federation Newsletter are on hiatus for the summer.

Show stuff:

Time to start the nitty-gritty work for the Show! We need to start the actual rounding up of all the stuff we need to transport for the Show, and see if there is anything we need to repair / replace / acquire. We need to see what materials we have for the Children's Activities, and if we need to acquire a few things or maybe pass on one of the activities this year – it's hard to find enough manpower for all of the activities every year, so most years we pick and choose.

We also need to plan for the Potluck Dinner for club members and the Dealers on Friday after Show Setup if we're going to have it – after last year's show, we decided we'd like to do it again, but we need to make formal plans. And we need to decide how we're going to deal with concessions this year.

Displays for Gem Show:

If you are planning to put together a display for the Gem Show, I hope you've been working on it, so that if you have any questions or problems that other club members may be able to help you with, you've found them so that you can ask at the meeting. Need help with how to

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display something? How to label it / them? Need help printing out the labels? Ask at the meeting!

Minerals and Their Everyday Uses Display:

We've got our list of potential minerals up on the web site, for you to check out and keep up-to-date. We've added Zeolites at Ray's recommendation, and will add others if you can come up with the suggestions. I'll try to make up a sign to have with us at the show, both so that people can see what we're doing, and so we can keep track of any new acquisitions!

Field Trip to Cleveland Zoo for *Dinosaurs!*:

The **Cleveland Metroparks Zoo** is again putting on their *Dinosaurs!* display this summer (http://www.clemetzoo.com/events/event.asp?event_id=101):

Those club members who've seen the exhibit say it is well worthwhile, so we decided to arrange a club carpooling trip, after the Gem Show (probably in August). Admission to the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo is free for members of the Erie Zoo, and \$10 for adults (age 12 and older) and \$7 for Children (2-11) for non-members; the *Dinosaurs!* exhibit is \$1 more. We will be choosing a date at the Show, to get together and carpool.

Field Trip to Collect Herkimer Diamonds:

The club has organized a few Field Trips to **Crystal Grove Diamond Mine & Campground** (<http://www.crystalgrove.com/>), and we plan to go back over the Labor Day Weekend, September 4-6. While much of the specific planning can wait until after the Gem Show, we do need to think about making reservations at the Campground, so we need to know how many spots to reserve, and for which nights. So check your calendars, and your vacation days, and see if you want to come with us, and whether you'll be taking the day off on Friday to drive up early, or take Tuesday off and come home late, or whatever. Remember that it is about a 5½ to 6 hour drive, and setting up a tent and / or campground after dark can be a challenge – though we've done it!

Also, check your gear, and we'll try to figure out what equipment we have to share around – some folks may want to come, but not have all the gear they'd need, and others may have some extra. We'll have more discussion later, but we need to start thinking and planning.

Upcoming Shows in the area:

Here are the shows within day-trip driving distance:

July 17-18, Erie, PA - 41st annual show; Gem City Rock & Mineral Society; JMC Ice Arena, 423 W. 38th St.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, seniors \$2, children under 12 free; rocks, gems, jewelry, minerals, fossils, wire wrapping, findings, beads, Mini-Mine, Discovery Blocks; contact Bob Gallivan, (814) 454-6770; e-mail: gallivan@lycos.com; Web Site: www.gemcityrockclub.org/show.htm

July 24-25, Hamburg, NY - Show; BeadStreet USA; The Erie County Fairgrounds, The Grange Bldg., 5600 McKinley Pkwy.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; vintage beads, Swarovski crystals, lampwork, precious metal findings, gemstones, supplies; contact Jane Strieter Smith, (216) 521-4367; Web site: www.beadstreetusa.com

If you're planning to travel elsewhere, check out the complete online listings at the Lapidary Journal Calendar (<http://www.lapidaryjournal.com/cal1.cfm>), and especially the Rock and Gem Magazine Calendar (<http://www.rockngem.com/showdates/showdates.shtml>). There are lots more shows outside daytrip range!

We will have Work Sessions on some Saturdays, depending on interest. Check the club web site or call me (Harriet) at 868-8422 or Bob Gallivan at 454-6770 to find out about any specific Saturday, or to let us know you're interested.