



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

February 2012

Last Month's Meeting:

Last month we discussed things the club needs to do to get ready for the change of officers and planning for the new year, and Jim Trimble gave a demo of faceting.

This Month's Meeting:

This month our meeting will be Saturday, **February 4th**, 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 – a door heading into what looks like, well, a restaurant, with a small mirrored lobby.

There is also 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 on Saturdays!

We will be discussing the audit that was done last month, in preparation for the change in treasurer and the Budget Meeting this month. We will also discuss things people think should be considered in the budget.

For those who will no longer be on the Board, please remember to **bring your keys** to pass on to those taking over your duties.

Board Meeting:

We will be having a board meeting following the regular meeting. Primary topics are establishing a budget, and any other planning for the activities of the year.

Club By-Laws:

It has been a while since we distributed the Club By-Laws, and some of our new officers would like a refresher on exactly what duties go with the office – so we will have copies available at the meeting for those who want them.

Dues are Due:

Also, now that we've entered a new Calendar Year, club Dues are due! If you joined at the show last July (2010), your dues are paid through the end of 2011; if not, it's time to pay up again for another year. Dues are as follows:

\$10.00	Junior (under 18 or full-time student)
\$15.00	Individual
\$20.00	Couple (or parent and one child)
\$25.00	Family

Club Web Site address:	www.gemcityrockclub.org	Webmaster: Val Engelleiter	vmethos5@yahoo.com
President	Dodie Fitch	P.O. Box 320	Waterford PA 16441-0320 (814) 403-0393
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Newsletter Editor	Harriet Beckman	email:	gemcity@treebeard.net (814) 868-8422
Board Members:	Rose Galeza		Kirk McFadden Mary Thomson

The Membership Renewal Form has worked very well in helping your club secretary and treasurer keep track of who paid what for whom, so please do use it again when you mail in your dues or bring it in to the meeting. To remind you, the club address is

Gem City Rock & Mineral Society
P.O. Box 475
Erie, PA 16512

Please try to remember to bring your dues along to the meeting, or mail a check to the club. We will give you a month or two to get your dues in, but those not current on their dues will stop getting the newsletter and not be eligible to participate in any club activities! So please help us keep you current by renewing promptly.

Show Flyers:

Since we are starting to think about the spring Show season, and it would be good to get some flyers for **our** show ready to take to other area shows for distribution, the flyers on the Show page of the club's Web site should be updated by the meeting. (If you check and they aren't, *remind me* – please!)

Upcoming Shows in the area:

No more shows within day-trip driving distance until spring – but Quartzite has already begun, and Tucson isn't far behind! Plenty of shows in Florida, Texas and California, though, and locally, we can start to look forward to:

February 11-12, Berea, OH – Intergalactic Bead & Jewelry Show. Cuyahoga Fairgrounds, 164 Eastland Rd., Berea, Ohio 44017. <http://beadshows.com/index.jsp>

February 25-26, Pittsburgh, PA – Intergalactic Bead & Jewelry Show. The Circuit Center & Ballroom (in The I B E W Building), 5 Hot Metal Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15203. <http://beadshows.com/index.jsp>

March 24-25, Sayre, PA -- 43rd annual show; Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club; Athens Township Volunteer Fire Hall; 211 Herrick Ave.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, students \$1, children (under 8) free; special 50th anniversary events, club member demonstrations and displays, junior activities, mini-mine, geode cutting, Carnegie Museum and Paleontological Research Institute displays, dealers, minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry; contact Bob McGuire, PO Box 224, Lopez, PA 18628, (570) 928-9238; e-mail: uvbob@epix.net; Web site: www.chehannarocks.com

March 24-25, Hamburg, NY – 44th annual show; Buffalo Geological Society; The Fairgrounds, Market and Grange Bldgs., 5600 McKinley Blvd., South Park Ave. entrance; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5; demonstrations, minerals, fossils, beads, jewelry, private collections, unique gifts, drawings; contact Don Lapham, 6802 Erica Ln., Lockport, NY 14094, (716) 879-0457; e-mail: donald_lapham@fmc.com; Web site: www.bgsny.org

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!