

Nittany Mineralogical Society Bulletin

Nittany Mineralogical Society, Inc., meeting in State College, Pennsylvania
Contact information on back page

April, 2018

Visit our web site: www.nittanymineral.org

Editor (see back page):
David C. Glick

April 18th meeting:

Space Debris, Part 1: Rock Samples from Space

by

Fred Marschak

Professor Emeritus Earth & Planetary Sciences
Santa Barbara City College

Our March meeting will be held Wednesday the 18th in room 114 (the large auditorium) Earth & Engineering Sciences Building on the west side of the Penn State campus in State College, PA. Maps are available on our web site.

6:45 to 7:45 p.m.: Social hour, refreshments in the lobby

7:45 to 8:00 p.m.: announcements, questions, etc.

about 8:00 p.m.: featured program

*The event has free admission, free parking, and free refreshments, and is open to all; **parents/guardians must provide supervision of minors.** Bring your friends and share an interesting evening!*

Meteorites are “free” samples from space. They have been of increasing importance to scientists in the areas of Solar System origin and evolution, early planetary composition, the geologic history of the Earth and Moon, and the History of Life. More recently, they have been extremely important in stellar evolution.

As our knowledge of our solar system’s asteroids increases, so does finding the parent bodies of the meteorites which strike the Earth and other planets. There will be many different examples of meteorite types to examine toward the end of the evening. Personal samples of meteorites for display are welcome. Keep your impactites for May, when Dr. D.P. Gold will present Part 2, titled “Asteroids and Comets: Dark Threats.” ✱



Fred Marschak retired back to central Pennsylvania in 2014 after teaching over 50,000 students in his career. Most of them were at Santa Barbara City College, where he was Earth and Planetary Sciences Professor.

May 16th meeting:

Space Debris, Part 2: Asteroids and Comets: Dark Threats

by

Dr D.P. "Duff" Gold

Professor Emeritus of Geology
Penn State

AND

Honoring Dr. Duff Gold as a
Life Member of Nittany Mineralogical Society.

Before the main program at the May 16th meeting, please join us for a short reception and presentation to honor Duff Gold, a founding member and Board member through the Society’s 24-year history.

FIELD TRIP SIGN-UP

NMS is planning a field trip in May to collect minerals and perhaps some fossils. To be on the notification list and to attend, you must be a current, paid member. A test e-mail was sent on April 13 to the current list; if you didn’t receive it, but want to be on the list, contact Membership Chair Dave Glick (see p. 4)

ATTENDING THE APRIL MEETING?

Donations of **a few high quality, labeled door prize specimens** are invited.

Your donated snacks will be welcomed.

Bring a friend!

Volunteers = Successful Minerals Junior Education Day

Our 23rd annual event for children and their parents was held Saturday, April 7, at Central Pennsylvania Institute of Science & Technology at Pleasant Gap. One hundred seventy-two children attended, with their parents, and it seemed to go very smoothly and we heard “thank you” many times from those attending. It was presented by:

Nittany Mineralogical Society,
Bald Eagle Chapter of GPAA,
Lincoln Caverns,
Junior Museum of Central Pennsylvania, and
Penn State Earth & Mineral Sciences Museum.

This year the stations were:

- gold panning by GPAA,
- caves & karst by Lincoln Caverns,
- petroleum drilling,
- lapidary (gemstone carving) and oolitic chert,
- grinding and polishing spheres,
- invertebrate fossils (shells) & plant fossils,
- vertebrate fossils (bones, and more),
- flame tests for mineral identification,
- ultraviolet fluorescence (glow in the dark),
- crystal forms and structure,
- plus sales tables.



Among the giveaways were fossil gastropods from Clearfield County.



NMS sincerely thanks everyone involved. Frank Kowalczyk got started early and spent months organizing the event, Dale Kephart accepted and recorded all the advance registrations, and John Dziak organized publicity through many channels. The station organizers spent months preparing in various ways, transformed an empty room into an exciting event in less than an hour and a half, and spent five more hours presenting their interesting lessons non-stop.

The dedication of NMS members, family, and friends who get up early to work on a Saturday is impressive, and

greatly appreciated. The same goes for members of other groups - Bald Eagle Chapter of Gold Prospectors Association of America (long-time participants) and Lincoln Caverns (first-time participants). Penn State undergraduate and graduate students from the College of Earth & Mineral Sciences and elsewhere were a valuable addition to volunteer staff.

Another big category to thank is donors and organizers of material which we hand out at the learning stations or sell at the sales table. Along with station leaders who provided their own materials, these include Barbara Sincak of Treasures of the Earth (Hollsopple, PA), Steve and Jackie Sywenski, Mike Dunton, Tim Holtz, Dr. Bob Carnein, Skip Colflesh, Ruth Park, the late Pen Ambler, the late Peggy Kendall, and the estate of John Passaneau. The administrators and staff of CPI are very helpful, and the facility works very well for us to hold this event.

It's not too early to think about next year. This outstanding event could use your help! *
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Geo-Sudoku

by David Glick

This puzzle contains the letters ACEJKNPSU. One row or column spells a different two-word term for our April / May topics. Each block of 9 squares, each row, and each column must contain each of the nine letters exactly once. The solution is on page 8.

		K				C	S	N
J								
	P		N				A	
		P	S		E			K
S				K	N			P
					U	N	J	S
A		C	K					
		E	U		C	J		
P	N			A	J			

-Have a mineral word with 9 letters, none repeated, that hasn't been used recently in our Geo-Sudoku? Please submit it the Editor (see page 4).

Earth & Mineral Sciences Museum on TV Mysteries at the Museum

The episode of Travel Channel's Mysteries at the Museum including Penn State's Earth & Mineral Sciences Museum aired recently. It can be viewed on the web at <http://www.dailymotion.com/video/x6ds1rf> - the Penn State segment starts about 27 minutes into that program.

FEDERATION NEWS

Nittany Mineralogical Society, Inc., is a member of EFMLS, the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, and therefore an affiliate of AFMS, the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. We present brief summaries here in order to encourage readers to see the entire newsletters.

The **EFMLS Newsletter** is now being distributed electronically; a link is available on our web site www.nittanymineral.org. The April issue is not yet available.

The **AFMS Newsletter** is available by the same methods. The April issue is not yet available.

The Federations encourage everyone to see the web sites for the complete Newsletters. There's a lot there!

-Editor

Eastern Federation Wildacres Workshops May 21-27 and Sept. 3-9, 2018

from <http://efmls-wildacres.org/>

Indulge your passion for minerals, gems, jewelry, and craft. Join entry and intermediate level short classes. Enjoy programs from our great Speakers-in-Residence. Form new friendships and deepen old ones. Do it all at



Wildacres, a beautiful retreat center atop the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. What could be better?!

See the class list, registration materials, information on the speakers-in-residence, photos, video, and more at <http://efmls-wildacres.org/>.

Some Upcoming Shows and Meetings

Our web site <http://www.nittanymineral.org> has links to more complete lists and details on mineral shows and meetings around the country. See www.mineralevents.com for more/

April 21-22, 2018 - Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show, by Monongahela Rockhounds West Mifflin Volunteer Fire Co., #4 Skyview Hall, 660 Noble Drive, Pittsburgh PA 15122. Sat, 10 - 6 Sun, 10- 4. <http://www.monongahelarockhounds.org/events.php>

April 28-29, 2018: New Jersey Earth Science Ass'n Gem & Mineral Show. Kittell Community Center, 12 Munsonhurst Rd., Franklin NJ 07416. Sat 9-5:30, Sun 10-5. <http://njesa.org/spring-mineral-show.html>

May 5-6, 2018: Treasures of the Earth Show and Sale, by Mineralogical Soc. Of NE PA. Oblates of St. Joseph, 1880 Highway 315, Yatesville (Pittston) PA 18640. Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4. <http://www.msnepa.org/gem---mineral-show.html>

May 12, 2018: South Penn Rock & Min'l Swap & Sale, by CPRMC & Franklin Cty RMC. South Mtn Fair-grounds, 1.5 mi NW of Arendtsville off PA 234 (for GPS: 615 Narrows Rd., Biglerville PA 17307). Sat. only, 8-3.

May 12, 2018 -Earth Science Show & Sale, The Rock & Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County, PA. Christ United Methodist Church, 501 Wistar Road, Fairless Hills, PA; 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM;

May 12, 2018: Spring Outdoor Rock Swap & Sale, by North Jersey Mineralogical Soc. Sterling Hill Mining Museum, 30 Plant St, Ogdensburg NJ. Sat only 9-5 <http://nojms.webs.com/north-jersey-swap-n-sell>

June 2, 2018: Spring Mineralfest, by PA Earth Sci. Ass'n. Macungie Mem. Park, Poplar St., Macungie, PA. One hundred tables overloaded with minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry, crystals and geodes from six continents - and possibly from outer space. Sat. only, 8:30-3. www.mineralfest.com

Geo-Sudoku Solution

U	A	K	J	E	P	C	S	N
J	E	N	C	S	A	K	P	U
C	P	S	N	U	K	E	A	J
N	U	P	S	J	E	A	C	K
S	C	J	A	K	N	U	E	P
E	K	A	P	C	U	N	J	S
A	J	C	K	N	S	P	U	E
K	S	E	U	P	C	J	N	A
P	N	U	E	A	J	S	K	C

Visit us at www.nittanymineral.org

INVITE A FRIEND TO JOIN THE SOCIETY

The Nittany Mineralogical Society prides itself on having among the finest line-up of speakers of any earth sciences club in the nation. Everyone is welcome at our meetings. If you'd like to be part of our Society, dues are \$20 (regular member), \$7 (student rate), \$15 (seniors), \$30 (family of two or more members, names listed). Those joining in March or later may request pro-rated dues. Your dues are used for programs and speakers, refreshments, educational activities, Bulletins, and mailing expenses. Please fill out a membership form (available at www.nittanymineral.org), make checks payable to "Nittany Mineralogical Society, Inc." and send them in as directed, or bring your dues to the next meeting.

We want to welcome you!

CONTACT INFORMATION

mailing address:

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SOCIETY OFFICERS

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OTHER CONTACTS

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Facebook & Publicity: John Dziak: jjd264@psu.edu

The **Bulletin Editor** will welcome your submissions of articles, photos, drawings, cartoons, etc., on minerals, fossils, collecting, lapidary, and club activity topics of interest to the members. Please contact:

David Glick E-mail: xidg@verizon.net
209 Spring Lea Dr. phone: (814) 237-1094 (h)
State College, PA 16801-7226

Newsletter submissions are appreciated by the first Wednesday of the month. Photographs or graphics are encouraged, but please do not embed them in word processor files; send them as separate graphics files (TIF, or good to highest quality JPEG files, about 1050 pixels wide, are preferred). Please provide captions and name of photographer or artist.