

Nittany Mineralogical Society Bulletin

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

August, 2019

Visit our web site: www.nittanymineral.org

Editor (see back page):
David C. Glick

August 21st meeting:

Show and Tell by the members and guests

Our August meeting is planned for Wednesday the 21st 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, answers
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!

The program topic for August will be **Show and Tell**, presented by anyone and everyone who would like to “show and tell” for 5 or 10 minutes or so. This is a great chance to bring in new specimens, lapidary work, books, photos, equipment, projects in progress, interesting contrasts and comparisons, **anything you like** which represents some area of interest in our hobby or science, and share it with others. You can speak about it as informally or formally as you’d like. Stories or questions on their own are fine, too. You can connect with other members who have similar interests, or awaken an interest or spark an idea in someone else. We’ve had many fun and interesting presentations in the past, and look forward to more this time around. *-Editor*

ATTENDING THE AUGUST MEETING?

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

Your donated snacks will be welcomed.

Bring a friend!

On the NMS Schedule

Regular third-Wednesday meetings:

August 21, September 18, October 16, November 20.

Picnic: Sunday, September 8.

Annual Holiday dinner: planned for Wednesday December 18, our regular third-Wednesday meeting night. This is during Penn State finals week.

NMS Picnic

Sunday
Sept. 8
4 - 7 p.m.
R.S.V.P.!



We are once again planning our leisurely annual picnic & cookout at the home and shady deck and back yard of Ellen and Stuart Bingham, 145 Goddard Circle, Pennsylvania Furnace, PA, 16865. It’s a great opportunity to relax and socialize. It will be held on Sunday, September 8, 2019, 4 to 7 p.m. Please **RSVP** with the number in your group so that we will have an approximate count. See page 3 for details. *-Editor*

Check the web site for any updates or changes.

OFFICIAL NOTICE: Annual Meeting and Elections in October

by David Glick, NMS President

The October 16th meeting will be the **Annual Meeting of the Corporation**, and will include election of officers. In accordance with our bylaws (available on the web site), the Board of Directors, acting as the Nominating Committee, plans to meet in early September to set its recommended slate of officers. If you would like to volunteer to be on the ballot, or nominate someone, it would be most convenient if you would contact the President or other Board member (see page 4) by September 5.

The Board truly needs **additional volunteers** to get involved with running the Society, providing **new energy and fresh thinking** and some new names on the ballot. In many cases it would be useful to have newcomers spend some time on committees and attending Board meetings before stepping into elected office. **All members: please consider volunteering!**

A Public Talk

Dr. Charles E. Miller, Jr.

On June 24, 2019 the writer gave a public talk to Menno Haven - a retirement facility in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. The talk was for a general audience and had the title "A local earth science field trip." Because earth science is interdisciplinary, aspects of geology, meteorology, climatology, and astronomy were included. The writer is a former 32-year resident of Chambersburg, including teaching for 10 years in the area. As a result, there is familiarity with local earth science such as sinkholes along I-81, caves at Shippensburg, local quarries, the Devil's Racecourse, and much more.

Although much effort goes into preparing such talks, the rewards are many. There is creativity in deciding how best to present images and how to orient the talk to a particular audience. In gathering information, there is always something new to be learned. Learning is a reward in, and of, itself. If the presentation goes well, there is great personal satisfaction in a job well done. Finally, there is the audience -and that is the basis of this article.

The talk became a mini reunion. Several people from the community attended. Decades ago, most of those people accompanied the writer to local caves, sinkholes, or other sites to consider geology topics of interest. One person was a member of a caving trip in which we made observations not previously known in the literature.

Just before the talk began, a person walked over to say hello to the writer. It was Dr. Bill Shirk, former Professor of Earth Science at Shippensburg University. In 1973, the writer took a course from him. On the first day of class, Bill distributed survey cards, asking about our academic and professional backgrounds. At the next class, he asked if the writer had ever considered doing a doctorate. "No" was the response because "I could never do one." He disagreed and the rest is history.

The writer reminded Bill of this anecdote even though it had been mentioned previously. This time, he was reminded in the presence of his wife. After telling the story, she said: " Someone had done the same thing for him early in his academic life." Somebody took the time to encourage. So, what goes around comes around. However, the story does not

quite end here. In 1978, the writer was a year away from finishing that doctorate and was volunteering information to Bill as he coordinated a professional field trip for the National Association of Geology Teachers, Eastern Section. For these efforts, the writer was presented a service award. Fast-forward 39 years later as several of us were coordinating with the Pennsylvania Geologic Survey for the Field Conference of Pennsylvania Geologists. Each year, the Conference uses student volunteers. With that in mind, the writer suggested service awards for those students - reflecting back 39 years ago.

At the end of the talk, one elderly gentleman in the audience introduced himself. Long since retired as a geologist, he had done his doctorate fieldwork in nearby South Mountain under the tutelage of the late Dr. Charles P. Thornton, Professor of Geology at Penn State. This is another example of paths crossing and another reward for giving a public talk.

Geo-Sudoku

by David Glick

This puzzle contains the letters AEHIKLNOS; one row or column includes a geologic feature found in the valleys of Pennsylvania. As usual, if you've read this issue, you've seen it. Each block of 9 squares, each row, and each column must contain each of the nine letters exactly once. The solution is on page 4.

			A					
N	L	K	E					
		I	N	K	H			
I				H		L		
O		N			L			S
				N		E		
					I		H	K
		S						L
	A						N	

Note: This is a repeat from a while back because I was in a hurry this month. If you have any interesting mineral- or geology-related words of 7 to 9 letters, with no letters repeated, please submit them to the editor! Thanks!

Nittany Mineralogical Society Annual Picnic 2019

Sunday, September 8th, 4 to 7 p.m. at 145 Goddard Cir., Pa. Furnace, PA 16865

RSVP to nittanymineral.org@gmail.com or (814) 822-0292

NMS will supply the dogs and burgers, buns, drinks, and place settings.

Please bring a snack, side dish, or dessert to share.



Friends and Families welcome!



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. The **Federations and our Society strongly encourage all members to read the monthly Federation Newsletters, available on their web sites**, which are linked from our web site, www.nittanymineral.org. We present brief summaries here in order to encourage readers to see the entire newsletters. There's a lot there!

The EFMLS Newsletter is now being distributed electronically; a link is available on our web site

www.nittanymineral.org. The May issue includes an article on the ice disk in the Presumpscot River in Westbrook, Maine, which was in the national news in January, and results of the EFMLS Newsletter survey are presented. The July issue spotlights the Wayne County Gem and Mineral Club of western New York. Awards received in the Bulletin Editors Contest are listed by club.

The **AFMS Newsletter** June issue invites donations of items to be auctioned for the Endowment Fund. An article investigates the geology strikingly depicted in Leonardo da Vinci's painting *Virgin of the Rocks*. -Editor



FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY - Pennsylvania Chapter SYMPOSIUM November 2, 2019 Lancaster, PA FIELD TRIP November 3 Penn/MD Materials

Symposium for mineral enthusiasts on **Saturday Nov. 2, 2019**

Talks by Expert Speakers on **Pennsylvania Mineralogy and Geology**
Sales by Select Dealers - Silent Auction - Give-away Table - Conversation
Hackman Physical Sciences Bld. (parking lot off Harrisburg Pike),
Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, PA

Registration: watch for registration form on our web site

Professional Geologists: Professional Development Hours available for lecture attendance

Field Trip Penn/MD Materials Quarry, Lancaster County, PA. **Sunday Nov. 3** Open only to symposium registrants.

Watch for details, registration form, changes and updates on our **web site: www.rasloto.com/FM**

For newsletters and field trips during the year, please join our chapter!

**See "Join FM"
on the web site**

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.

Sept. 14-15, 2019: Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show, by Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Club. Harrisburg Consistory, 2701 North 3rd St., Harrisburg PA 17110. Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5. <http://www.rockandmineral.org/annual%20show.htm>

Sept. 28-29, 2019: Franklin-Sterling Hill Gem & Mineral Show. Littel Community Center (formerly known as the Armory), 10 Munsonhurst Rd #12, Franklin NJ 07416. <https://franklinmineralmuseum.com/event/61st-annual-franklin-sterling-gem-mineral-show/>

October 5, 2019: Autumn 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, & more. Sat. only, 8:30-3. www.mineralfest.com

October 26, 2019: Ultraviolation: Fluorescent Minerals Show, by R&MC of Lower Bucks County PA. First United Methodist Church, 840 Trenton Rd., Fairless Hills PA 19030. Sat. only, 9-4. <https://sites.google.com/view/lowerbucksparocks/shows>

October 26, 2018: South Penn Fall Rock and Mineral SWAP & Sale: South Mountain Fairgrounds, 1.5 miles West of Arendtsville, PA. Sat. only, 8-3.

Nov. 2-3, 2019: FM-Pa Symposium & Field Trip; see p. 3. Saturday Symposium at Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, PA. Sunday Field Trip for Symposium registrants only. Please register in advance. <http://www.rasloto.com/FM/>

NMS BOARD MEETING NOTICE

NMS members are invited to attend Board of Directors meetings, which are generally held at 7:00 p.m. about two weeks prior to the general monthly meeting, although we do not meet every month. **The next date for a full Board meeting has not been set.** Members who would like to attend should contact president David Glick to verify time and place; those who would like to have their discussion item placed on the agenda should contact him at least one week in advance of the meeting.

Geo-Sudoku Solution

H	O	E	A	L	S	N	K	I
N	L	K	E	I	O	H	S	A
A	S	I	N	K	H	O	L	E
I	E	A	S	H	K	L	O	N
O	H	N	I	E	L	K	A	S
S	K	L	O	N	A	E	I	H
E	N	O	L	A	I	S	H	K
K	I	S	H	O	N	A	E	L
L	A	H	K	S	E	I	N	O

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:

Nittany Mineralogical Society, Inc.
c/o S. Bingham, Treasurer
145 Goddard Cir.
Penna. Furnace PA 16865

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.

Visit us at www.nittanymineral.org