

All are invited to attend the monthly meeting of the  
**Nittany Mineralogical Society**  
**Wednesday, March 21, 2012**

At a special starting time of **6:00 p.m.**

*Our March meeting will be held Wednesday the 21st at a special starting time of 6:00 p.m., in the lobby and room 114 auditorium of Earth & Engineering Sciences Building on the west side of the Penn State campus in State College, PA. Maps and directions are available through our web site, [www.nittanymineral.org](http://www.nittanymineral.org)*

*5:00 - 6:00: **Junior Rockhounds meeting in room 121***

*6:00 to ~ 7:10 p.m.: **Buying & cracking geodes***

*about 7:15 p.m.: **featured program on geodes***

*The event has free admission and free parking,, and is open to all. No purchase is necessary; you can just watch geode cracking and attend the program. **Geode Night is great fun for "kids of all ages," as they say. Don't miss it!***



An unusual geode with both solid and hollow sections.

*Photo courtesy of Jeff Smith.*



Jeff shows a youngster the inside of his new geode. Photo by Jim Garthe

# ***GEODE NIGHT!***

presented by Jeff Smith  
**“The Geode Guy”**

NMS is very happy to welcome back Jeff Smith, “the Geode Guy,” to present Geode Night to our club again. Starting at 6:00 p.m. in the lobby, several sizes of whole geodes will be available for purchase at \$5 and up. After you buy, Jeff will crack them open for you and you’ll be the first person ever to see the crystals inside. If yours turns out to be solid, you can pick another at no charge. In addition, there will be polished halves starting at \$3, and larger opened geodes at a variety of prices.

When the geode cracking is finished, Jeff Smith will present a program on geodes in the room 114 auditorium at about 7:15. He and his family have visited the geode mine in Mexico, and he has slides, good stories and video of the long trip out to the mine and then going underground to mine a few geodes themselves. It’s fascinating! The program is family friendly and very interesting.

**AND...Register kids now for  
Minerals  
Junior Education Day  
Saturday March 31**

Students in grades 1-8 and their parents learn about minerals, crystals, gemstones, and fossils. At this event, kids get an empty egg carton when they check in, then go to a series of stations, each concerning a different aspect of mineral properties, rocks or fossils. They learn about the topic from a demonstration or discussion, and receive a properly labeled specimen related to the topic, so they gather a whole collection in their egg carton. The whole tour takes 1.5 to 2 hours. \$5 per child, **advance registration required.**

**[www.nittanymineral.org](http://www.nittanymineral.org)**