

# The Danburite

*The Danbury Mineralogical Society, Inc.*

*P.O. Box 2642, Danbury, Connecticut 06810-2642*

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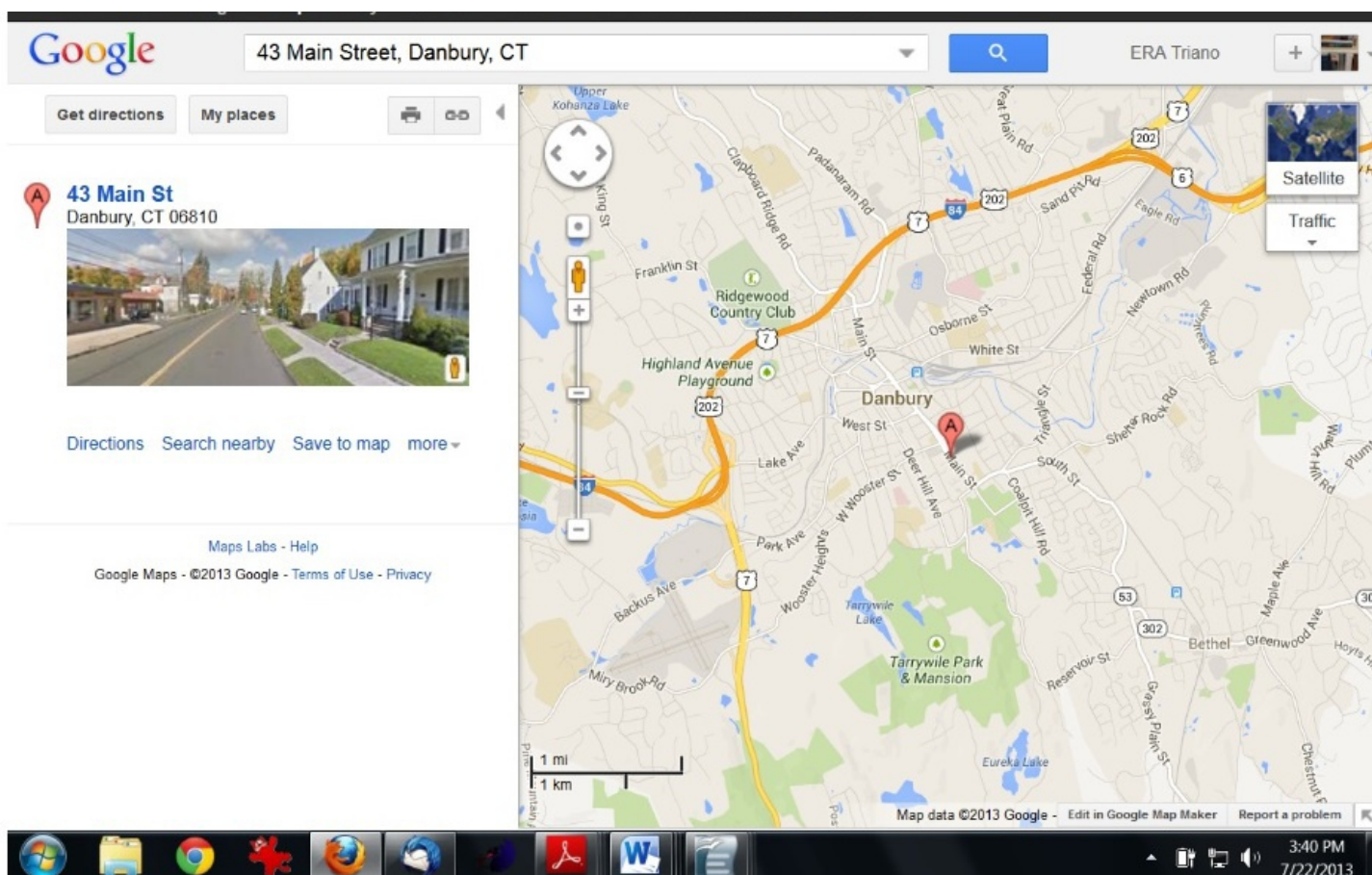
**NEXT REGULAR MEETING THURSDAY, November 7, 2013**

**Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.**

***NEW LOCATION !!***

The meeting will be at the **Danbury Museum & Historical Society**  
**43 Main Street, Danbury CT**

***Happy Thanksgiving !!***



**NEW** DMS WEBSITE <http://danburymineralogicalsociety.weebly.com>

AFMS WEBSITE <http://www.amfed.org/> EFMLS WEBSITE

<http://www.amfed.org/efmls/>

**President's Message**

*(Our fearless leader's computer is in the shop...)*

**The NOVEMBER Program will be ...**

Carolyn Reynard will talk to us about "Obduction of Upper Mantle and Oceanic Crust onto the Continental Crust of Newfoundland".

**DECEMBER is shaping up to be the Schusters and sapphires...****We need a seminar speaker for JANUARY....**

Our new meeting place, the **Danbury Historical Society & Museum**, has an extensive website with lots of educational links and cool events:

[www.danburymuseum.org/danburymuseum/Home.html](http://www.danburymuseum.org/danburymuseum/Home.html)

**Minutes of October meeting**

*Peg Hedrick, Secretary pro tem*

October 3, 2013

Meeting: Attendees:

President – Dan McAuliffe

Secretary Pro-Tem – Peg Hedrick

Members at Large: Hank Henning, Dan Garrity

Members: Jack Palowski, Mark Kucera, Jerri & Willi Wiley

**Old Business:**September Rock & Mineral Show

President Dan welcomed the small group and spoke about the September New Milford High School Rock and Mineral Show and once again mentioned how grateful he was to all the club members who showed up to set up for the show on Friday, and worked so hard on Saturday and Sunday. Treasurer Laurie was not present to give the expense report, but will do so at the next meeting after the final bill comes from the New Milford School.

The club had to purchase a large amethyst geode that was inadvertently damaged by one of our young helpers. This rock can be seen at the Mining Museum in Kent where Jack has it

for sale. President Dan suggests that the BOD & Members chair the event in 2014.

**New Business:**DMS Club Officers Elections

President Dan is willing to take on another term. By-laws need to be reviewed. Rick Sinclair, current club VP has resigned and dropped out of the club due to an altercation at the NM HS show. This position is open.

Secretary Pro-Tem Peg Hedrick is willing to be Secretary. Treasurer Laurie Mechanic

-Goodman and Editor Liz Triano are willing to take on another term. If anyone wants to nominate themselves for an officer position, please send information to President Dan.

Field Trip Chairman is needed due to VP resignation. The Club will vote at the November meeting. Volunteer needed to pick up drinks & cookies for meeting. It was suggested that Jerri & Willie lend their services officially to the club as Members at Large, due to their devotion to the club.. but they declined.

Meet Up – Pros & Cons

Since the departure of Rick Sinclair the club discussed the necessity of utilizing "Meet-Up". Advantages: Garnered several new members through "Meet-Up". Meet-Up sent automatic Club meeting reminders, and asked for confirmation of attendance. Disadvantages: We have to pay for it (\$60 -\$70 for 6 months membership). Someone would have to be responsible for taking care of it. We have other channels to use. The members agreed we did not need it.

New Club Meeting Site – Danbury Historical Society

Advantages: Plenty of parking, bright, clean spacious room with large screen & computer monitor. Access to storage & possible museum display cases. Disadvantages: Traffic issues.

Holiday show at the Danbury Historical Society/Seminars

It was reported that the DHS was going to have a show in December and could allow the club to rent a glass display to show off mineral specimens or information about our club.

Jan- June the Historical Society has seminars. It was suggested that the club could arrange a seminar about Geology.

Field Trips

Members discussed having possible future field trips to local museums (Peabody, Bruce, Pawling library) where there are impressive Gem & Mineral collections.

Iceland – Land of Fire and Ice

Jack P. presented a **WONDERFUL** slide show of his recent trip to Iceland in July. Iceland, a country the size of Kentucky, has amazing topography of volcanos (although much to Jack's disappointment none were erupting during his visit), scenic valleys and quaint villages. His beautiful presentation was entertaining as well as informative. We saw vistas of steep rocky lava mountains, waterfalls, bright green moss covered hills, fields of lupines and other alpine flowers.. and miles and miles of rocky, rugged and nearly impassible roads. Jack encountered wild weather of 50 mph winds, driving rain, blankets of fog, cold and finally after all of his travails in this amazingly scenic & wild country...he got to relax in a lush thermal blue lagoon surrounded by bikini clad Icelandic beauties! (Way to go Jack!)

**Action Items:****Arrange a Club Party for second Sunday in January.**

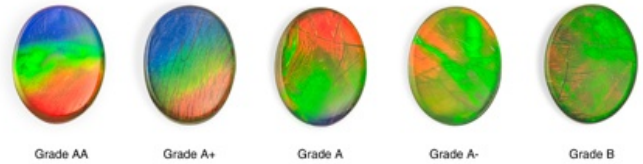
BOD will look into restaurants in Danbury & surrounding areas.

Suggestions: Jim Barbaries, Holiday Inn in Danbury, Anthony's on Kenosia, The Hearth in Brookfield.

Next BOD Meeting at President Dan's house last Thursday of the month.



Pearl oyster image by Manfred Heyde, from Wikimedia Commons



Ammolite grading by Korite



image from ammolitegemsandjewelry.blogspot.com

**Organic Jewels !!**

Amber, jet, and pearls come easily to mind when one thinks of organic gems, but they're not the only ones. (Apparently jet isn't even recognized as a gem.) As detailed in the June 2013 issue of Rock & Gem magazine, ammolite, "the fossilized shells of ammonites in which the primary mineral component, aragonite, produces an iridescent play of colors," gained official status as a gem of organic origin in 1981 (recognized by the CIBJO, or, in American English, the World Jewelry Confederation).



The lost Amber Room. Image by jeanyfan from Wikimedia Commons.



While amber is found in a number of places worldwide, and pearls of course come from oysters (or mussels), gem-quality ammolites in any commercially viable quantity have so far only been found so far in Alberta, Canada. (According to mindat.org: “Opalescent shell fragments from other localities are usually called *Lumachelle*.”)\* You’ll have seen them, though: colorful fossilized spiral shells, whole ones made into pendants and other jewelry items, pieces polished en cabochon. It’s a popular jewelry item lately. Aragonite, a polymorph of calcium carbonate (that’s right, like calcite), is not characteristically a colorful mineral, but the thin layers in an ammolite bounce light back and forth and cause the shifting red, green & blue colors that we observe. Looking at some of the photos of colorful cut and polished pieces of ammolite, I can’t help but wonder whether this globally popular gem is already subject to fakery.



Ammolites for sale at rhyniechert.com

Pearls are also composed of aragonite and calcite, and mother of pearl and abalone both get their shimmer from aragonite (called nacre in MOP). (Sources vary regarding whether MOP includes calcite also.) Aragonite is also available as a fertilizer product, but there does not seem to be any information regarding iridescence...

\*<http://www.mindat.org/show.php?id=8393>

Is it ammoLITE or ammoNITE? Sometimes the answer is “both.” AmmonITES were cephalopods that first appeared in Earth’s oceans over 400 million years ago. They came in a variety of shapes, but in this context are best known as the spiralled-shell fossil. Ammonites (fossils) are found all over the world.

AmmoLITE is the aragonite-layered version of this fossil as described above. Think of it as the “extra pretty” version. That’s one way of looking at the question. I’ve also seen it answered that “ammonite” was the animal, and “ammolite” is the gemstone, but since I usually see that answer at retail sites, and a more complicated version of the first one at more scientific sites, I’m rather wary of it.

Think about it, do a little research, and draw your own conclusions.



Spider in amber. Image by Elisabeth from the Netherlands from Wikimedia Commons

Regarding amber, Mark Nelson, editor of the Pasadena Lapidary Society’s Rockhound Ramblings, has kindly allowed us to reprint his article “Amber – A Most Unique Mineral!” and it follows here below (I used different illustrations however):

Amber represents a past that we can only study in the fossil record! We know from fossils that there were insects and vegetation 40 to 60 million years ago and, in amber, we frequently see the actual

insects and vegetation in the glowing mineral specimens!

The gem we call Amber has been appreciated for its color and natural beauty since Neolithic times. Amber is fossilized tree resin - often mistakenly referred to as tree sap. Whereas sap is a thin material which acts like arterial blood to a tree, running deep in the heart of the tree, resin lies at the outside edge of the tree - right under the bark - and acts like a clotting agent to heal the tree when its damaged or when attacked by insects - which are then trapped and encapsulated in the sticky substance!

Amber is one of a few organic materials that classify as a gemstone. The others are pearls, jet, ivory, coral some colorful shells like abalone. Much valued from antiquity to the present as a gemstone in jewelry, amber is also made into a variety of decorative objects. Amber is a very soft material - varieties are rated from 1 to 3 on Mohs scale of hardness - so be especially careful with pliers when wrapping amber in wire. Amber is also used as an ingredient in perfumes and as a healing agent in folk medicine.



Caribbean green amber, via Wikimedia Commons

Amber comes in a variety of colors, including ruby red, pale yellow/brown and green. Like many gems and soft minerals (peridot, citrine, turquoise) amber is often enhanced by jewelers and faked by thieves. We would be wise to know the source of the amber we acquire and to ask the dealer if it is real

**THROW A PIANO DOWN A MINE SHAFT,  
AND I'LL SHOW YOU A FLAT MINER.**

**We sponsor the Danburite page at  
MINDAT:**

<http://www.mindat.org/min-1218.html>

**The sustainable development framework encourages the engineering community to take on as a moral principle that good engineering practices involve not just financial profit, but environmental stewardship and social justice considerations as well.**

*Carlos Bertha, Ph.D., in PE Magazine*

### Brad Smith's BenchTips

#### MARKING YOUR TOOLS

It makes sense to mark your tools if you ever lend them to friends or take them out to classes or workshops. Question is how to mark them permanently. For metal tools, I use a very small ball bur running fast in the Dremel or Foredom to "engrave" my initials. Other times I'll form the initials with a number of hits with a center punch.

But for hammer handles and other wooden tools, the country boy in me came back and thought "Why not make a branding iron?" If you'd like to try one, all you need is a little scrap copper or nickel about 22-24 gauge, a piece of heavy brass or copper for a base, about 6 inches of metal rod and a piece of wood for the handle.



I formed my initials from a couple 4mm strips of sheet nickel. The "S" was one piece, but the "B" was three pieces soldered together with hard. (Remember to form the letters backwards). I then soldered the



letters with medium onto a piece of 1/8 inch thick brass bar to act as a heat sink. Finally, I soldered a piece of 1/8 round rod on the back of the brass bar as a shaft to join to a wooden handle.



#### BENCH TIPS HOLIDAY SPECIAL

If you find these monthly tips useful, then think how nice it'd be to have the full bench tips reference guide for your shop or as a present for a jewelry friend. Between now and Thanksgiving I'm offering a Holiday Special that includes a free bonus pack of jewelry articles with every copy purchased.

"Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" contains 101 of the most popular and useful bench tips organized into ten main problem areas. It's filled with close-up photos and has a detailed index to help find the solution you need by key word.

Get your copy by going directly to my printer at <http://CreateSpace.com/3976439>

Upon ordering the book, you will receive a confirmation email. This is your proof of purchase. Forward a copy of this to me at [<benchtips@yahoo.com>](mailto:<benchtips@yahoo.com>) to receive your free bonus pack.

The articles include:

1. Cuttlebone Casting - Get wonderful textures quickly and easily
2. Bezel Basics - Hints for making a perfect bezel every time
3. Make Your Own Wax Pen - You'll love this \$20 electric wax tool
4. Depletion Gilding - An easy way to avoid tarnish on your pieces
5. Setting Up A Home Shop - Tool tips and safety considerations
6. Building a Jewelry Web Site - Develop a plan to save money

More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at [groups.yahoo.com/ - group/BenchTips/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/) or [facebook.com/BenchTips](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips)

### ~~ Fun Stuff ! ~~

Remember the Russian meteorite last winter? They found a chunk about half a ton in size!

<http://edition.cnn.com/2013/10/17/world/europe/space-russia-chelyabinsk-meteorite/index.html?hpt=ieuc2>

(courtesy of Moki K.)

Very mysterious ad from the June 2013 (Smithsonite / Ammolite) issue of Rock & Gem magazine.

<p><i>Presenting</i>  <b>The Star Diamond</b>          (The All-Seeing Eye, 13.58 carats)</p>	
<p>A most exquisite and unique Diamond of 13.58 cts. Crystal morphology quite unusual for Diamond, and superior gem quality rare in specimen offerings.</p>	
<p>This specimen is GIA certified diamond, but with a most unusual Raman signature.</p>	
<p>For serious investment inquiries regarding this specimen and others in the collection, please call Steve at 909/374-8984 or email <a href="mailto:geosteeve@gmail.com">geosteeve@gmail.com</a></p>	

### Spotlight on the Juniors / Pebble Pups

AFMS Newsletter November 2013

*Having Fun: Junior Activities*

by Jim Brace-Thompson, Juniors Program Chair

### Geo-Sites for Earth Science Education

When we think "field trip," we usually think "collecting," and we drive off with our heads filled with dreams of stuffing our backpacks with rocky treasures. But field trips don't always need to be about taking home rocks. Some allow us to take home a more valuable commodity: knowledge. A neat guidebook was recently published with field trip localities geared toward educating rather than collecting: Albert B. Dickas' *101 American Geo-Sites You've Gotta See* (Mountain Press, 2012). Dickas helps you take kids to sites that tell unique geological stories. For instance, you can see dramatic evidence of an ancient meteorite strike in Alabama, a view of the Pacific plate sliding by the North American plate along California's San Andreas Fault, fossil-bearing ash beds in Nebraska that tell of an unimaginably immense volcanic eruption in ancient Idaho 12 million years ago, or evidence of a

tropical sea as well as massive glaciation in Ohio. With 101 sites included across all 50 U.S. states, you should be able to find a locality within reasonable distance for a day- or weekend trip for your club's juniors.

The book opens with a brief earth science primer on the rock cycle, geological dating, plate tectonics, and "A Short History of the Earth" giving a quick walk-through of earth history eon-by-eon, period-by-period. Then comes the real meat of the book: the 101 sites from Alabama to Wyoming. Each site entry consists of a two-page spread. The opening page provides GPS coordinates, a one-sentence overview of the significance of the site, and an overall description and history. The second page provides colorful supporting illustrations, maps, and photos. Printed on high-quality glossy paper, the photos make it a wonderful coffee-table book in addition to an informative read. But to maximize its use, go beyond the pictures and get your club's kids out to a site near you to see it up-close-and-personal. Rather than stuffing their backpacks with rocks, stuff their heads with a little knowledge—and a whole lot of fun!

### Take a Survey !!

The Center for Geoscience Education & Public Understanding has just launched its Critical Issues program (<http://geocntr.org/critical-issues/>).

The Critical Issues program's mission is to support well-informed public and individual decision making by providing relevant geoscience information to decision makers at all levels, from federal to regional, state, local, and individual. The program aims to serve as a hub that facilitates the exchange of ideas, inquiries, and relevant geoscience information between decision makers and the geosciences community.

The Critical Issues program defines "critical issues" as things about the Earth that can affect people.

As part of our mission, the program is reaching out to understand what the critical issues of top concern are to the geoscience community, decision-making community, and public.

Thank you for taking a few moments of your time to participate in this short survey. No personally identifiable information is collected, and all information will be aggregated for analysis.

<http://surveys.agiweb.org/index.php?sid=33589>

Questions and comments may be directed to:

Leila M. Gonzales, Ph.D.

Senior Researcher, Critical Issues Program

AGI's Center for Geoscience Education & Public

Understanding

4220 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22302

Tel.: (970) 367-7588 | [lmg@agiweb.org](mailto:lmg@agiweb.org)

Shamelessly stolen from DVESScapades:

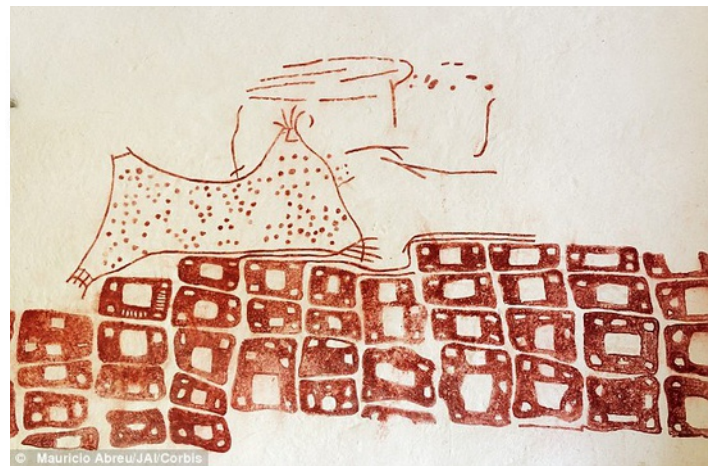
### 9,000-year-old painting of volcano linked to a real eruption

Axel Schmitt of the University of California, Los Angeles, reported that Hasan Dag volcano in Turkey erupted about 9,000 years ago, based on a new dating technique using zircon crystals. A mural in the Stone Age village of Çatalhöyük shows an eruption from Hasan Dag.

<http://www.nbcnews.com/science/9-000-year-old-painting-volcano-linked-real-eruption-8C11498570>

also

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-2478931/Is-worlds-oldest-warning-sign-9-000-year-old-painting-volcano-tells-people-nearby-danger.html> image from Daily Mail:



*How about some more GeoWords of the Day?*

**buried channel** (bur'-ied) An old channel concealed by surficial deposits; esp. a preglacial channel filled with glacial drift.

**Dunkardian** (Dun-kard'-i-an) North American provincial series: uppermost Pennsylvanian-Lower Permian (above Monongahelan).

**peridot** (per'-i-dot) (a) A transparent to translucent green gem variety of olivine. Syn: peridote. (b) A yellowish-green or greenish-yellow variety of tourmaline, approaching olivine in color. It is used as a semiprecious stone. Syn: peridot of Ceylon.

All terms and definitions come from the [Glossary of Geology, 5th Edition Revised](#).

[Peridot is a tourmaline? -ERAT]

### **News from Around the Collecting World**

**AFMS Newsletter** In addition to the content shared in other parts of this bulletin, the November AFMS Newsletter describes changes to the Uniform Rules. Read about them on page 3:

[http://www.amfed.org/news/n2013\\_11.pdf](http://www.amfed.org/news/n2013_11.pdf)

In case you want to check out the winning websites from the AFMS contest, here they are:

1. [www.oxnardgem.com](http://www.oxnardgem.com)
2. [www.SRMGS.org](http://www.SRMGS.org)
3. [www.gemandmineral.cc](http://www.gemandmineral.cc)
4. [www.westseattlerockclub.org](http://www.westseattlerockclub.org)
5. [www.slrockhounds.org](http://www.slrockhounds.org)
6. [www.austinpaleo.org](http://www.austinpaleo.org)
7. [www.pogmc.org](http://www.pogmc.org)
8. [www.delminsociety.org](http://www.delminsociety.org)
9. [brgemandmineral.org](http://brgemandmineral.org)
10. [www.baltimoremineralsociety.org](http://www.baltimoremineralsociety.org)
11. [www.owyheerocks.com](http://www.owyheerocks.com)
12. [rgms-va.info](http://rgms-va.info)

On October 31, 2013, the U.S. Secretary of the Interior issued ORDER NO. 3330

Subject: Improving Mitigation Policies and Practices of the Department of the Interior.

I haven't reviewed it, but you know a lot of rockhounds will be finding it of interest, so if you're one, click on over to

<http://www.doi.gov/news/loader.cfm?csModule=security/getfile&pageid=380602>

and review it for yourself!

### *Mini Miners Monthly*

ALSO STILL HAPPENING: Sale through the end of the year: Diamond Dan Publications has been creating fun, educational booklets for kids for 20 years now! In celebration we are offering the biggest discount we have ever offered: **25% OFF all of our activity books.**

Thank you for the many years you have supported our work and have dedicated yourselves to teaching and inspiring the next generation of mineral collectors.

<http://www.diamonddanpublications.net/>

!! Darryl Powell/Diamond Dan's stuff is terrific! I can't recommend it highly enough !! -ERAT

### *Bulletin of the New York Mineralogical Club.*

Their fall show is this weekend ! Anna Schumate says, Also remember our meeting on Wednesday, November 13. Irving Horowitz will present a fascinating look at the Strange Habits of Quartz.

Their show, in partnership with Tony Nikischer of Excalibur Mineral Corp., will include the following vendors (in booth number order, starting with Booth 2 as Booth 1 will be the club booth):

Aurora Mineral Corp.  
Quarry Enterprises  
Highland Rock & Fossil  
Amazon Imports  
Raj Minerals  
John Betts Fine Minerals  
Gems Art Studio  
Earth's Energy\*  
Somethings / Carolyn Lee  
Malachite & Gems of Africa\*  
Margola Corp.\*  
Khyber Gemstone\*  
Rocko Minerals & Jewelry  
AYS International\*  
Bill Gangi Multisensory Arts  
Mahalo Minerals  
Bary Gems, Inc.\*  
Crystal Circle Fine Minerals  
and wholesaler  
Howard Schlansker Wholesale Minerals

\*new to this show



*Garnet Gazette* of the Mid-Hudson Valley Gem & Mineral Society. Annual Club Auction, Friday, November 15 !! Friends Meeting House, 249 Hooker Avenue, Po'k.

*The Vug* of the Stamford Mineralogical Society). (Anyone get to their show last weekend? Nov 2 – 3?)

Thanks to editor/webmaster Dan Imel, the EFMLS News is now posted to the federation website in a timely manner. Check out current & past newsletters at <http://www.amfed.org/efmls/newsletters.htm> .

Also...



Spirifer Minerals has issued #7 of its series of FABULOUSly illustrated newsletters. Find it here:

[http://spiriferminerals.com/foto\\_artyk/minerals/minerals-7.pdf](http://spiriferminerals.com/foto_artyk/minerals/minerals-7.pdf)

***In case you missed the news: Green's Farm has been SOLD.  
(no more collecting at Roxbury)  
That's all, folks!***

## ***Museums and Other Fun Places***

**The Institute for American Indian Studies** ([www.IAISMuseum.org](http://www.IAISMuseum.org))  
**860-868-0518**

See [www.iaismuseum.org/calendar.shtml](http://www.iaismuseum.org/calendar.shtml) for more information on these events. I'm sorry that I didn't have time to get them all in here.

IAIS is proud to highlight the beadwork and quillwork of Chris Bullock of Wampanoag descent for the months of October and November. Since childhood, Chris has participated in Native American cultural events and has been crafting his own work for 47 years. He also provides educational programming on eighteenth century Native culture.

Chris oversees the daily operation of The Wandering Bull, LLC, a family business his parents began in 1969 that is located in Washington, New Hampshire. The Wandering Bull sells Native American craft supplies, as well as vintage and antique Native art with a focus on the Northeast Woodlands.

November (Native American Heritage Month)  
10 Veterans' Day Celebration  
16 Scout Day  
23 Family Herbal Class  
29 Time for Stories  
30 Indian Holiday Market

### December

1 Artifact Identification  
1 Indian Holiday Market  
7 & 8 Indian Market  
8 LAC Lecture: "Connecticut Yesteryears: The Walum Olum"  
14 & 15 Indian Market

**\*\*Note that Indian [Holiday] Market will run three weeks this year and NOT the week before the Christmas holiday. Please plan accordingly!**

IAIS hosts the Litchfield Hills Archaeology Club's website as a sub-section of theirs, at <http://lhac.iaismuseum.org/> .

**Bruce Museum  
Greenwich, CT**

<http://brucemuseum.org> 203-869-0376

**Peabody Museum of Archaeology  
and Ethnology**

<https://www.peabody.harvard.edu/>  
617-496-1027

**Yale Peabody Museum**

<http://peabody.yale.edu/> (203) 432-5050

**New York State Museum, Albany NY**

<http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/>  
(518) 474-5877

*Free Admission !! closed Mondays*

**Connecticut Science Center  
Hartford, CT**

<http://www.ctsciencecenter.org/>  
860.SCIENCE (860-724-3623)

**Corning Museum of Glass  
Corning, NY 14830**

607-937-5371 800-732-6845  
[www.cmog.org](http://www.cmog.org)

*Sat., 5/18/2013 - Sun., 1/05/2014*

*Life on a String: 35 Centuries of the Glass Bead* will showcase, for the first time, many important works from the large historical glass bead collection of The Corning Museum of Glass as well as objects on loan from seven institutions.

**~ Events Calendar ~**

*Shows with web links may have coupons!*

**November**

**9 – 10, New York, NY** – New York Gem & Mineral Show. Holiday Inn, 440 W 57 St. 10:00AM-6:00PM Sat; 11:00AM-5:00PM Sunday. Admission is \$6.00; kids under 12 are free. Lectures, 20 top dealers, retail and wholesale.

<http://www.excaliburmineral.com/shows.htm>

**23 – 24, West Palm Beach, FL** - 47th Annual Gem, Jewelry, Bead, and Fossil Show of the Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches. South Florida Fairgrounds, 9067 Southern Blvd. Contact: Barbara Ringhiser: [bar5678@aol.com](mailto:bar5678@aol.com).

**23 – 24, Fairfax, VA** - 22nd Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show of the Northern Virginia Mineral Club. George Mason University, Braddock Rd. & Rt. 123, Fairfax, VA. Contact: [www.novamineralclub.org](http://www.novamineralclub.org)

**30 – Dec 1, Morristown, NJ** – The Morris Museum's Rock & Mineral Weekend 2013. Morris Museum, 6 Normandy Heights Road. FREE with museum admission. Dealers, displays, lectures, mineral ID. 973-971-3718

Make a pet rock at the Friday kickoff workshop (make a pet rock) of this weekend event presented by the Morris Museum Mineralogical Society.

<http://www.morrismuseum.org/>

*From the museum's website:*

Enjoy a rockin' weekend at the Morris Museum. Visit the mineral, gem, and fossil displays throughout the Museum. Members of the Morris Museum Mineralogical Society will be on hand to identify any of your mystery rocks and minerals. Families will be able to examine fossils, learn about fluorescent minerals, and listen to engaging presentations on various topics in geology and about the Earth. Other activities include a sand box scavenger hunt and a mineral magic show. For more information, please email [programs@morrismuseum.org](mailto:programs@morrismuseum.org). FREE with Museum admission.

*and*

The Morris Museum's geological collection, considered one of the best in New Jersey, is home to numerous specimens from throughout the world, but has a focus on the state's own mineralogical profile. In fact, the geological collection represents 100 percent of New Jersey's minerals, including Franklin and Watchung Mountain materials.

In the Rock and Mineral Gallery, visitors can experience a variety of geological specimens in an interactive, hands-on setting or walk into a dark "cave" in which they can enjoy the fluorescent properties of certain pieces in a specialized light setting. The museum is proud to host a display of

Favorite Minerals from the Morris Museum Mineralogical Society, made possible by individual lenders from the society, in addition to its subject-specific cases addressing different types of minerals, how minerals obtain their unique and often brilliant colors and the making of synthetic gems. Additionally, visitors can compare and contrast the three different types of rock (igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic) in a side-by-side exhibit.

<http://www.morrismuseum.org/rocks-and-minerals/>

### **December**

**8 – 9, Patchogue, NY** – Suffolk Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, North Ocean Avenue.

<http://www.suffolkgem.com/>

### **~ 2 0 1 4 ~**

**30 January – 16 February, Tucson, AZ** -- Tucson 22<sup>nd</sup> Street Show. Minerals, fossils, dinosaurs, meteorites, gems, and jewelry 60,000 square feet of exhibitor space; 180 dealers. Corner of I-10 & 22nd Street

### **February 2014**

**13 – 16, Tucson, AZ** -- 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Tucson Gem & Mineral Show: “60 Years of Diamonds, Gems, Silver & Gold.”

<http://www.tgms.org/>

**15 – 16, Albany, NY** -- Annual show of the Capital District Mineral Club. New York State Museum, Empire State Plaza, 260 Madison Ave. Daily 10-5. Admission: adults \$5, children free. Guided museum mineral gallery tours. Contact Michael Hawkins, 3140 CEC, Albany, NY 12230, (518) 486-2011. e-mail: [mhawkins@mail.nysed.gov](mailto:mhawkins@mail.nysed.gov)

### **March 2014**

**1 – 2, New York City, NY** – Spring NYC Gem & Mineral Show (partnership between NYMC and Excalibur Minerals). Holiday Inn Midtown Manhattan. Details to follow.

**1 – 2, Newark (Stanton), DE** – Annual Show (theme to be announced) of the Delaware Mineralogical Society. Delaware Technical & Community College, Stanton.

<http://www.delminsociety.net/index.htm>

**8, Upper Marlboro, MD** – 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Mineral, Jewelry and Fossil Show, organized by: [Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club](#), Show Place Arena (14900 Pennsylvania Avenue).

**8 – 9, Clifton, NJ** -- Annual show of the North Jersey Mineralogical Society. The Pope John II Center, 775 Valley Rd. Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5. Admission: adults \$5, seniors \$4, children free. Rocks, minerals, fossils, gemstones, lapidary rough, jewelry, rockhounding supplies, free mineral for kids, door prizes! Contact Jeff Wilson, 14 Beach Dr., Montague, NJ 07827, (973) 293-7911. e-mail: [buckwood4@yahoo.com](mailto:buckwood4@yahoo.com); Web site: [www.nojms.webs.com](http://www.nojms.webs.com)

**15 - 16, Old Bethpage, NY** – Island Rockhounds Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show. Old Bethpage Village Restoration.

<http://www.islandrockhounds.org/index.html>

**29 – 30, Plymouth Meeting, PA** – Annual Mineral Treasures & Fossil Fair show and sale, presented by the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society, the Delaware Valley Paleontological Society with the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies' Annual Convention. Lulu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike. Sat. 10 – 5, Sun. 10 – 4. Admission Adults \$5, Kids under 12 \$1, Scouts in uniform FREE. Fossils, minerals, gems, speakers & exhibits. Learning activities include a fossil dig and kids' mineral corner. [www.philamineralsociety.org](http://www.philamineralsociety.org)



**April 2014**

**5 – 6, Johnson City, NY** -- Annual show of the New York Southern Tier Geology Club. Johnson City Senior Citizens Center, 30 Brocton St. Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4. Admission: adults \$3, children (under 12) free. Club exhibits, silent auctions, dealers, minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry, beads. Contact Al Conklin, 187 Forest Hill Rd., Apalachin, NY 13732, (607) 625-4140. e-mail: [allanconklin@aol.com](mailto:allanconklin@aol.com)

You can find gem and mineral show listings in hobby and trade magazines as well as online. Here are some fairly useful websites, and there are also listings at the Federation sites by region.

<http://www.mineralfest.com/calendar.html>

<http://www.rocksandminerals.org/Coming%20Events/coming-events.html>

<http://www.rockngem.com/show-dates-display/?ShowState=ALL>

<http://www.mindat.org/eventlist.php>

<http://gemshows.blogspot.com/>

**Follow-ups & Links***Ammolite*

<http://www.gemsociety.org/info/gems/ammolite.htm>

<http://www.rhyniechert.com/ammolite.html>

<http://skywalker.cochise.edu/wellerr/students/ammonites/ammonites.htm>

[http://www.gia.edu/doi/10\\_5741-GEMS\\_45\\_3\\_192](http://www.gia.edu/doi/10_5741-GEMS_45_3_192)

<http://gemologyproject.com/wiki/index.php?title=Talk:Ammolite>

Korite's pages:

<http://www.ammolite.com/>

<http://www.korite.com/ammolite.html>

Feng Shui ammolite use

<http://fengshui.about.com/od/Crystals/f/Ammolites-and-Feng-Shui-Ammolite.htm>

Rather nice “eBay Buying Guide” about Ammolite

<http://www.ebay.com/gds/Ammolite-Buying-Guides-/10000000176874829/g.html>

Make your own! (sort of)

[http://www.polymerclaycentral.com/faux\\_ammolite1.html](http://www.polymerclaycentral.com/faux_ammolite1.html)

*Education*

Report on Earth and Space Sciences Education in US Secondary Schools: <http://geocntr.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/ESS-2013-Status-Report-10-17-13.pdf>

*Çatalhöyük volcano*

[http://library.thinkquest.org/C0112681/Eng/Normal/Fun\\_Stuffs/catal-huyuk.htm](http://library.thinkquest.org/C0112681/Eng/Normal/Fun_Stuffs/catal-huyuk.htm)

[http://www.elsevierdirect.com/companions/9780126431407/netscape4/Contents/Chapt80\\_04.htm](http://www.elsevierdirect.com/companions/9780126431407/netscape4/Contents/Chapt80_04.htm)

<http://volcanism.wordpress.com/2009/02/28/saturday-volcano-art-catalhoyuk-the-volcano-that-changed-its-spots/>

*Curiosity, Mars, & Space Stuff*

[http://issuu.com/rocketstem/docs/rocketstem\\_november\\_2013](http://issuu.com/rocketstem/docs/rocketstem_november_2013)

*Professional STEM*

Don't call them hippies: COPRI, the Coasts, Oceans, Ports & Rivers Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers, has issued a Sustainability Policy Statement: <http://www.asce.org/copri/About-COPRI/Sustainability/>

### Official STEM on Social Media

The Government is up and running again. Find images like this on the Department of the Interior's Twitter Feed:



More links in celebration of the Government not being shut down ...

<https://twitter.com/NatlParkService>

<https://twitter.com/USPS>

a quick video all about Carbon, courtesy of the USPS! [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hdV5\\_1eO3sU&feature=share&list=PLF1E12CB9A3C4F564](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hdV5_1eO3sU&feature=share&list=PLF1E12CB9A3C4F564)

### Mineral Club Links

Lapidary and Mineral Society of Central Connecticut  
<http://www.lmscc.org/> (also on Facebook)

Bristol Gem & Mineral Club  
<http://bristolgem.org/>

Connecticut Valley Mineral Club  
<http://www.cvmineralclub.org/> (also on Facebook)

Stamford Mineralogical Society  
<http://www.stamfordmineralsociety.org/>

Mid-Hudson Valley Gem & Mineral Club  
<http://mhvgms.org/>

New Haven Mineral Club  
<http://www.newhavenmineralclub.org/>

Orange County Mineral Society  
<http://www.orangecountymineralsocietynewyork.com>

The North Jersey Mineralogical Society  
<http://nojms.webs.com/>

North Shore Rock and Mineral Club  
<http://www.northshorerock.org/>

and there are more to be found at  
<http://www.amfed.org/efmls/clubs.htm>

### The DMS is on Facebook!! Are You ?

There are in fact a lot of rockhounds – and lapidary hobbyists of all types -- on Facebook. Sometimes the link will say “closed group” or you will have to send a request to join, and that is just to try to keep out spammers, so don't worry about it – not a test or anything like that.

So sign in or sign up at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and search for Danbury Mineralogical Society PAGE. Come on, you know you want to!

While you are there, check out the IAIS' page at [www.facebook.com/pages/The-Institute-for-American-Indian-Studies/94523613907?ref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Institute-for-American-Indian-Studies/94523613907?ref=ts) and

Rock, Gem and Mineral Clubs at [www.facebook.com/RockGemMineralClubs](http://www.facebook.com/RockGemMineralClubs)

You can see lots of fun shared photos (and meet other rockhounds) in the group “The Rockhound Connection”  
[www.facebook.com/groups/169785333057/10150901166988058/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/169785333057/10150901166988058/)

Mindat has a FB “group” page also, at [www.facebook.com/groups/mindat/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/mindat/)

and there is their sibling page for Gemdat:  
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/141931992617518/?ref=ts&fref=ts>

American Geosciences Institute has a page at [www.facebook.com/agiweb](http://www.facebook.com/agiweb)

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### AFMS Code of Ethics

- I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.
- I will keep informed on all laws, regulations of rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- I will to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind – fences, signs, buildings.
- I will leave all gates as found.
- I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.
- I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.
- I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and Will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and public "image" of rockhounds everywhere.

The Danbury Mineralogical Society Inc. is a non-profit corporation and is affiliated with the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies and The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the first Thursday of the month from October to June the Danbury Historical Society & Museum, Danbury, Connecticut. (Summer meetings have started to occur now that we no longer meet at a school.) Visitors and guests are welcome at all meetings. The January meeting is usually a dinner seminar. August is preparation time for our annual mineral and jewelry show in September.

Current membership dues are \$15 per adult individual \$20 per family (including children under 18), and \$10 for students and senior citizens. Only dues-paying members are covered by our liability and accident insurance and may receive the print version of the **Danburite**.



**Please be sure we have your CORRECT email address on file! If you absolutely must receive your copy by real mail instead, please let us know that also. Cancellations and other critical updates are disseminated by email and on our Facebook page as well as the website.**

The particular objectives for which this Society is formed are:

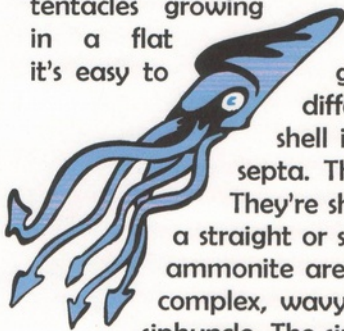
- To promote general interest in mineralogy
- To study rocks, minerals, fossils and the lapidary arts through lectures and discussion groups and field trips.
- To encourage the search for minerals indigenous to our areas
- To keep an accurate and permanent record of all mineral localities visited by this society and to make such records available to all members.

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As an educational non-profit society, part of our function is to find and share information that may be of interest to our membership as well as to earth science and jewelry hobbyists in general. Where possible, we attain permission to reprint materials found elsewhere, and consider these excerpts and references to be covered under the Fair Use clause of copyright law (Section 107). Line drawings unless otherwise attributed are from "MinPics" collection purchased from Diamond Dan Publications.

### **What's the difference between an ammonite and a nautiloid?**

Both ammonites and nautiloids are cephalopods, marine invertebrates that have tentacles growing out of their heads. Advanced nautiloids have a shell coiled in a flat spiral that looks very much like the shell of an ammonite, so it's easy to get the two confused. However, there are some important differences. In both ammonites and nautiloids the interior of the shell is divided up into chambers by a series of bulkheads called septa. The septa of a nautiloid are pretty simple. They're shaped more or less like a contact lens, with a straight or slightly curved margin. But the septa of an ammonite are shaped more like a lasagna noodle, with complex, wavy margins. Another difference involves the siphuncle. The siphuncle is a tube that runs the length of a cephalopod's shell. In nautiloids, the siphuncle runs right through the center of each septum. But in an ammonite, the siphuncle runs around the outer edge of the shell, going through the edge of each septum..



Complex septa of an Ammonite shell

Ammonites became extinct at the same time that the dinosaurs did, but one genus of nautiloid survives to the present day.