

Island Rock Hounds, Inc.

ROCK BOTTOM FACTS

March 2017

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President's Message

Dear Fellow Members:

So, my trip to Tucson was quite an experience! I was able to spend time with both Kathy Kerrigan and Sue Melazzi. I also visited with Carol and Bill Cascio!

I am hoping to put together a presentation to you about the whirlwind of a week next month at our April 12th meeting.

This month we will continue the viewing of the DVD and talk about our show.

Please remember we need volunteers to help make the show successful, especially for security positions. Please, if you cannot make the meeting this week, please call me at 516.449.5341 and let me know what times you can volunteer.

Of course - I would like to see you at the meeting as well!

Our May meeting is the Annual Emilia Gangi Auction- Please donate items such as rocks and minerals, books about the hobby and other items that relate to our hobby.

In June Howard Greene will be our guest speaker. Howard is also putting together for our show the UV box and a flyer.

Rock- on!

Cheryl Neary
President, Island Rock Hounds

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UPCOMING EVENTS

March 5-6th NYMC show @ Holiday Inn 440 W 57th St

March 10th IRH Show Set-up

March 11- 12th IRH Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry
Old Bethpage Restoration Village

May 20-21st Celinka Show- Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Patchogue

July 29-30th LIMAGS Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry

For Other Gem & Mineral shows visit: www.amfed.org/EFMLS/calendar.htm

Upcoming Field trips:

Spring 2017: Dated TBD

1. Bus trip to Rosendale Cement Mine & D&H Canal Museum
2. Wildacres – May 21 -28th
3. June 24-25- Gilsum NH(LIMAGS)
4. August 12th _LIMAG Bus Trip to Springfield, MA
5. August 18-22 – Trip to Kentucky for Fluorites, Geodes, and witness Solar Eclipse on 8/21/17 (with Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club)



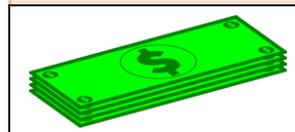
to our
March Babes!

Roberta Besso
Howard Cohen
Kathy Kerrigan
Walter Schoendorf
Janet Zenk

Dues are Due!

\$15.00 Individual

\$25.00 Family



See Janet Zenk

BETWEEN A ROCK & A HARD PLACE:

A SYNOPSIS OF FEBRUARY'S MEETING:

Discussion on upcoming show!

This month's meeting:

This month we will continue with our DVD presentation with Dr. Scott Tinker on Switch – Discover the Future of Energy.

Dr. Scott Tinker demystifies the complex world of energy. We will be introduced to how we make and use energy and discuss electricity, oil, coal, natural gas, nuclear and renewables, such as solar, geothermal and biofuels.

Discussion of Show!!!!

**March Meeting:
Wednesday, March 8th**

Time to think about our Annual Auction to be held in May!

Please bring donations to the meetings!

AS A REMINDER:

Please wear your IRH badge at the meetings! We have new members and it would help everyone with matching the names with the faces! Also, as an incentive, if you wear our badge you will be eligible for an additional chance to win the monthly raffle.

If you misplaced your badge, the cost of the replacement badge is \$1.00. Please speak to Janet Zenk (Membership).

Please see the last few pages for information on Wildacres – I already sent in my deposit! This will be a great time- so think about it!

Cheryl Neary

Editor, Island Rock Hounds Bulletin

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On the Road Again- Harnessing Our Waterways: Canals & Dams

Instead of continuing the article on the Hudson River, I thought the following was more appropriate especially since our theme this year is Harnessing our waterways. Again, Mother Nature has shown that she dominates the earth!

Recent current events have seen the damage caused by the emergency spillways for the Oroville Dam located on the Feather River.

The Oroville Dam is an earthfill embankment dam. It is the tallest dam in the United States at a height of 770 feet and comprised of more than 85 million cubic yards of earth. The purpose of the dam is mainly for water supply, hydroelectricity generation, flood control and recreation.

At one time this dam was called the 9th wonder of the world, taller than the Hoover Dam by more than 40 feet. Oroville Dam is located about 70 miles north of Sacramento at the confluence of the three forks of the Feather River.

Dam construction began in 1961 and was completed in 1968, despite multiple floods and a major train wreck on the rail utilized to transport the materials to the site. In order for the dam to be constructed, the Western Pacific Railroad track and Highway 40, which ran through the Feather River Canyon had to be relocated.

Lake Oroville, is the second largest man-made lake in California, built by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR).

Runoff from the Sierra Nevada overfilled Lake Oroville in the early part of 2017, forcing the release of large volume of water down the dam's concrete spillway. By February 7th, the force of the release created a large crater in the concrete spillway. The DWR released from the main spillway water, but the reservoir continued to rise and the threat of heavy rainfall overshadowed the weather reports for the upcoming days.

Thus the emergency spillway was utilized to release water from the reservoir. By the 12th of February, five days later, there was a great concern that the erosion compromised the integrity of the emergency spillway and the possibility of flooding the city of Oroville and the surrounding communities. An evacuation order forced thousands of people to seek higher ground. On February 13th, rocks were dumped into the emergency spillway to try to regain stability.

The building of the dam in the 1960s created another environmental issue, which DWR reacted to with the building of a hatchery. The Oroville Dam blocked salmon and steelhead trout access to the upstream spawning areas. Some of the fish adapted to spawning in gravel beds below the dam. A barrier and ladder system was built to allow the adult salmon and steelhead to be captured at the Feather River Fish Hatchery, then artificially spawned and released in the Delta of the Sacramento River.

20% of the ocean sport and commercial catch of salmon and steelhead in the Pacific Ocean are raised at the hatchery, which is run by California's Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Talk about wild lives-

Oroville also has a gold rush history. General John Bidwell struck gold in 1849.

Today, March of 2017, the floodwaters are receding in the Feather River and gold fever is back!

Mineral deposits have been stirred up in the riverbed and modern day prospectors are interested in striking it rich! Many hopeful prospectors are staking claims on several flood stricken banks of the river.

Per More Tales From the Mines California Museums

<http://explore.museumca.org/goldrush/dist-oroville.html>

“Shallow placers were mined here during the gold rush. The area was settled in 1849: Oroville originally was known as Ophir City, but the name was changed in 1855. Around 1895, W. P. Hammon and others tested the area to determine the feasibility of mining on a large scale. They introduced bucket-line dredging in 1898, the first in California. The field was highly productive from 1903 to 1916; in 1908 there were 35 dredges and 12 dredging companies active in the field. Output later declined, but dredging was done again from 1936 to 1942 and 1945 to 1952. The dredge field is now an important source of sand and gravel. The total Output from dredging is estimated to be about 1,964,000 ounces of gold.

Geology. The gold occurs in river gravels and adjacent terrace gravels on the flood plain. The gravels rest on a bedrock of soft but compact andesite and rhyolite tuff. Coarse boulders, which become finer downstream, are present along with alternating sand layers. Digging depths ranged from 25 feet upstream to as much as 55 feet downstream. The gold was fine and occurred chiefly in the gravels. It was 915 to 930 in fineness. Dredge recoveries ranged from 15 cents to 25 cents per yard of gold at the new price. Minor amounts of platinum also were recovered”

Today, located on the southern shore of the Feather River is the Feather River Nature Center, constructed of river rock and once the bath house for gold miners.

So now you can see why the above story was relevant to our theme on Harnessing Waterways. Although dams can be destructive to the environment in ways, they also have proven to be beneficial as well. The Oroville Dam has in the past prevented major flooding and has generated electricity to the region.

Next month we will continue with the Hudson River unless any other unforeseen related item pops up in the current events!

03.03.17 DEC website:

NYSDEC and Office of Parks Sponsor Free Spring Family Fishing Festival at Belmont Lake

April 1 Festival Marks Start of New York's Spring Trout Stocking Program on Long Island

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) will hold their annual Spring Family Fishing Festival on Saturday, April 1 at Belmont Lake State Park.

"Freshwater fishing is an activity the whole family can enjoy, especially on Long Island," DEC Regional Director Carrie M. Gallagher said. "The spring fishing festival at Belmont Lake State Park is an excellent way to kick off the fishing season and introduce the family to the sport. No license is needed to participate. Festival visitors can learn about freshwater fishing opportunities on Long Island and local fishing clubs, try fishing for trout, participate in the casting contest, and more."

Additional sponsors for the fishing festival include the Natural Heritage Trust, the Fisherman Magazine, and radio stations 106.1 WBLI and 102.3 WBAB.

The festival begins at 10 a.m. and is free of charge. Activities include open fishing, fishing instruction, fly casting demonstrations, and fish cleaning services. DEC and a number of local fishing clubs will have a display and demonstration area, and participants are urged to try their hand at fly casting. Loaner rods and free bait will be available to participants throughout the day. The supply of loaner rods is limited and participants are encouraged to bring their own fishing tackle if they have it.

Children's activities also begin at 10 a.m. and include an inflatable slide (weather dependent), the "Spring Fling" casting contest, and hands-on educational displays by DEC's Education Unit. Children participating in the casting contest will have a chance to win prizes supplied by DEC's I FISH NY Program, OPRHP, the Fisherman Magazine, and The Natural Heritage Trust.

To further encourage fishing in New York State, Governor Andrew Cuomo signed legislation in 2012 expanding the opportunity for free fishing clinics and allowing more New Yorkers to experience fishing for the first time with increased DEC free fishing clinics throughout the state. The Free Fishing Days program began in 1991 to enable more people to sample the incredible fishing New York State has to offer.

Governor Cuomo's NY Open for Fishing and Hunting Initiative, under the 2016-17 budget, provides \$3 million for State land access projects and \$4 million for hunting and fishing infrastructure.

The Spring Fishing Festival is a designated Free Fishing Event, so the freshwater fishing license requirement for anglers age 16 and older is suspended for this event.

The festival highlights DEC's spring (March and April) trout stocking program in Nassau and Suffolk counties. Prior to the festival, DEC and OPRHP will stock Belmont Lake with close to 4,000 brown, brook, and rainbow trout. Upper Twin Pond in Wantagh, Oyster Bay Mill Pond, Massapequa Creek and Reservoir, as well as 17 other Long Island lakes, will also be stocked with trout by DEC, providing excellent prospects for spring fishing in both Nassau and Suffolk counties.

This event will be held rain or shine. Call I FISH NY at [\(631\) 444-0283](tel:6314440283) or Belmont Lake State Park at [\(631\) 667-5055](tel:6316675055) for more information.

A vehicle use fee of \$8 will be in effect. Parking is free for Empire Pass holders. The 2017 Empire Pass can be purchased at state park offices, online or by phone at [\(518\) 474-0458](tel:5184740458).

For more information about the festival, call I FISH NY at [\(631\) 444-0283](tel:6314440283) or visit DEC's [Learn to Fish page](#).

For information about freshwater fishing on Long Island or the spring trout stocking program in Nassau and Suffolk counties, call the DEC Bureau of Fisheries at [\(631\) 444-0280](tel:6314440280), [e-mail](#) or visit the [Long Island/NYC fishing page](#).

What: Spring Family Fishing Festival

Where: Belmont Lake State Park

When: Saturday, April 1, 2017

Time: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Who: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP)

Details: Enjoy a day of fishing with the whole family! Event activities include fishing instruction, fish cleaning services, environmental exhibits, an inflatable slide (weather dependent), temporary tattoos, and the "Spring Fling" children's casting contest. Loaner rods and free bait will be available to participants throughout the day. Prior to the event, Belmont Lake will be stocked with close to 4,000 trout by DEC and OPRHP. The freshwater fishing license requirement for anglers age 16 and older has been suspended for this event.

Cost: \$8 parking fee; free with Empire Pass

Sponsors: DEC's I FISH NY Program, OPRHP, The Natural Heritage Trust, The Fisherman Magazine, 102.3WBAB, and 106.1WBLI

Contact: I FISH NY staff at [\(631\) 444-0283](tel:6314440283) or [e-mail](#)

“Spring” Into Action or “Fall” Behind by Steve Weinberger, Wildacres Workshop Chair

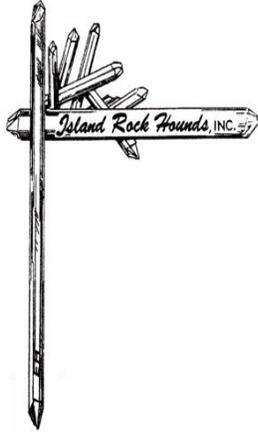
There is still time to register for the first EFMLS Workshop at Wildacres (May 22-28, 2017) although space is filling fast. We're delighted to have the renowned Bob Jones, Sr. Editor of Rock & Gem Magazine, as our speaker-in-residence once again. Bob's a world traveler and outstanding speaker and will surely share with us some of his adventures in both United States and other world collecting localities during his talks.

Our fall session will feature a new to us speaker - Dr. Tim Morgan. Tim's specialty is gemstones and he'll share his collecting adventures and knowledge about many of them with us during his non-technical talks. There is still space available for this fall session (September 4 - 10, 2017)

So what is Wildacres? The property originally belonged to Thomas Dixon (author of the Clansman which was used as the source for the film "Birth of a Nation"). During the depression, Dixon lost the property and in 1936, it was sold at bankruptcy auction to I.D. Blumenthal for \$6,500. After several years, non-profit groups such as our Eastern Federation were invited to use the facility for programs which in some way better human interactions. New buildings were constructed to replace Dixon's original hotels, and the number of groups using the facility was expanded as the season grew. Some 90 different groups are now invited each year!

For Full article please visit <http://www.amfed.org/efmls/> and click on Newsletters- 2017 March

Island Rock Hounds
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email address: islandrockhounds@hotmail.com
Affiliate Member of:

Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary Societies



American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



Purpose

and

Objective

The purpose and objectives of the Island Rock Hounds, Inc. are to conduct a non-profit, non-political organization to provide the members opportunities for work study and stimulate in the public and membership, scientific and educational interest in geology, mineralogy, paleontology, archaeology and related earth sciences, as as lapidary craftsmanship, gemology, and related subjects, and to offer a cultural and social exchange for persons interested in the aforementioned.

General Membership Meetings

Bellmore Public Library
2288 Bedford Avenue Bellmore, NY 11710

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month (except July & August) at 7