

# Island Rock Hounds, Inc.

## ROCK BOTTOM FACTS

October – November 2018

Website: [www.islandrockhounds.org](http://www.islandrockhounds.org)  
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Bellmore Memorial Library  
2288 Bedford Avenue  
Bellmore, NY 11710

### President's Message

Hello Fellow Rockhounds,

This month I am excited about our presentation! Elizabeth Wiesemann will be our guest speaker, The topic is on Opals. Each member will receive a sample of Australian Opal – but you need to be there to learn about the stone.

It is with much sadness that I inform you all about the loss of our long-time member Jennie Cascio. Jennie has been an important part of our rock club family and she will be missed. Our sincere sympathy to her family.

Our Holiday Party is on December 5<sup>th</sup> at the Olive Garden in Westbury. It is a week earlier as voted in in the September meeting. If interested, please sign-up at the November meeting. The cost is \$10.00 per person.

Our February meeting has been changed to February 20<sup>th</sup> due to a conflict with the Library.

Hope to see you on Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> !

*Janice Kowalski*  
President, Island Rock Hounds

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
	<b>2018</b>	
<b>Dec.1-2</b>	<b>Suffolk Gem &amp; Mineral</b>	<b>Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Patchogue 10 am – 5 pm</b>
	<b>2019</b>	
<b>March 2-3</b>	<b>NYC Mineral Show</b>	<b>Watson Hotel, NYC</b>
<b>March 9-10</b>	<b>IRH Show</b>	<b>Old Bethpage</b>
<b>May 31- June 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>EFMLS Convention</b>	<b>Monroe, NY</b>

For Other Gem & Mineral shows visit: [www.amfed.org/EFMLS/calendar.htm](http://www.amfed.org/EFMLS/calendar.htm)

### Upcoming Field trips:

Spring – UConn – Avery Point & Yale – Peabody Museum  
More details to follow!

Michigan or Bust – August 2019!  
More information to follow!



*Happy Birthday  
to our  
October/November  
Babes!*

**October:**  
**Barbara Albrecht**  
**Nancy Colburn**  
**Gail Sienna**

**November:**  
**Anna Andersen**  
**Sue Melazzi**  
**Isabelle Walordy**

**Dues are Due!**  
Please plan on paying dues  
at the November Meeting!

Get Well Wishes to:

**Roberta Besso**  
**Walter Schoendorf**

## BETWEEN A ROCK & A HARD PLACE:

### A SYNOPSIS OF OCTOBER MEETING:

October Meeting was a hands-on meeting about Agates. Members were able to choose a piece of pewter to glue to their selected agate slab.

Join us this month as we explore the World of Opals:

November 14, 2018

Presentation by Elizabeth Wiesemann



As a reminder:

Please donate Auction items –  
The auction will be held in May of 2019

### Important Dates:

Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> – Holiday Party – Olive Garden, Westbury  
\$10.00 per person – Sign up at November meeting

Wednesday, February 20, 2019 – Monthly meeting

Friday – Sunday – March 8-10, 2019 – Show – Need Volunteers!

### 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).**

*Cheryl Neary*

Editor, Island Rock Hounds Bulletin  
ciervo.neary@gmail.com

## On the Road Again- Building America: Highways & Byways

*In lieu of the article about our Highways and Byways I have substituted this article:*

### Tribute to John Garceau

I have many fond memories of John. Like many of our club members I met John at a club meeting. He had informed me that he became interested in rocks and minerals and fossils while working as a carpenter in one of the Middle East Gulf countries – perhaps Iran or Iraq way back when. He used to climb the mountains on his off days and discovered sea shells imbedded within the rock strata – and he was perplexed- how was this so? Researching this, he soon discovered that the region was uplifted due to various tectonic actions and reactions; it peaked his interest in what I consider the fascinating world of rocks and minerals.

I used to tease John that he worked for the CIA in all those countries where he had worked at government facilities – and of course he denied it! I also used to tease him that he was similar to cats and had nine lives - because he was through some awful accidents, from car accidents to his home burning to ashes and although he suffered from them he was alive!

Unfortunately, after fighting the battle with cancer, he surrendered his body to heaven, but his memories are alive in all that knew him.

I found myself fortunate to have John move only a few blocks from me in Patchogue. His home was waterside at Canaan Lake. John was fond of animals and he cared for them. When a swan was attacked by a hungry raccoon, John brought the swan to the veterinarian and brought it back to its majestic self. I would take my daughters over to visit with John and they be thrilled with his pet squirrel that ate the peanuts out of his pocket or the Rhode Island hen he captured at my house and provided shelter and food and in return she laid her eggs in the neighbors flower pot!

John had great Fourth of July parties and always invited club members to attend. When he moved to Pennsylvania to the Hideout – he invited members to visit with him. I consider myself lucky to have been able to visit him numerous times with various members, such as Kathy Kerrigan, Janice Kowalski and Isabelle, Pat O'Rourke and the last few times with Janet Zenk. Both of his homes he created into art works, with his last home proudly displaying the totem poles he built from the dying trees.

John was an artist. He loved to paint – and he did magnificent paintings. He at one time fabricated a collection of porcelain dolls. They were gorgeous! He dressed the dolls and added jewelry pieces – many of the items he designed. One of his great tragedies of material loss was this incredible collection during the fire; along with his mineral collection.

One fond and I consider funny memory of John involved him travelling to Wildacres with Sue Melazzi, Kathy Kerrigan and myself, many years ago (which happily was my first trip of many down I-81!). We were meeting up with Anna & John Andersen and Edith Heinlein. That year, Kathy and I were roommates, while Sue and Edith shared a room. At this time, both Edith and John were hard of hearing – and provided at least Sue, Kathy and I with many laughing bouts. After the first day, John came over to us and said I just want to warn you, at my class today I thought one of the participants asked me who I came down with and I said the girls – but later I found out he asked me who I was sharing the room with! Or the time both Edith and John carried on a conversation and neither one was talking about the same thing – you know for instance- “How was the class? Oh who is an ass? ..... You get the drift! The three of us were laughing the whole time this conversation took place and not once did they talk about the same subject and yet, they both thought they did!

While at Wildacres, John purchased a beautiful blue topaz – it was magnificent! After the fire, the stone which was in a fire-proof safe, turned from the brilliant blue color to colorless – from the intense heat generated by the flames.

John learned to facet stones and create cabochons. He loved creating pieces and sharing them with many. He became a mentor for a few on faceting.

He loved adventure and many years ago he went on a fossil hunting trip with a former member, Jim Quigley, who moved out to Arizona many years ago. (Bill Cascio sees Jim at club meeting in Tucson occasionally). On this trip, they had to horseback ride to reach the digging destination. He told me that as he was walking up the mountain, he stopped for a moment to catch his breath (or perhaps to have a cigarette!) and sat down on a rock when he discovered a head of dinosaur. He said he was so excited and kept yelling “a head, a head!” The rest of the group, which was passed him, thought he was notifying them that he had to use Mother Nature’s bathroom or he was trying to warn them of what was ahead! To hear him tell the story – well that was great!

John will be missed!

## Winter Wildlife: Seals in the City

Seals around New York City? You bet—and any time from November through May, you could get a glimpse of harbor and grey seals basking on sand bars, rocks and remote beaches off the shores and along Long Island. What to look for? Harbor seals have rounded bodies and spotted silver-gray, black or dark brown coats. Males average 5-5½ feet long and weigh 200-250 pounds, while females are slightly smaller. Harbor seals have fan-shaped flippers, and their average dive lasts three minutes, but they can remain submerged for up to 30 minutes! Some of the best places to watch them are:



- Cupsogue Beach County Park, Suffolk County, Long Island
- East and West Shinnecock County Park, Suffolk County, Long Island
- [Jones Beach State Park](#), Nassau County, Long Island
- [Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge](#), Queens County
- [Montauk Point State Park](#), Suffolk County, Long Island

## Wildlife, Fish, and Marine Life Newsletter

Help Protect New York's Bat Populations: Avoid Caves and Mines from October Through April



DEC is urging outdoor adventurers to [avoid caves and mines](#), which may be home to hibernating bats. Human disturbances are very harmful to the state's bat population since the arrival of the disease known as [white-nose syndrome](#). The disease has killed more than 90 percent of bats at hibernation sites in New York. White-nose syndrome makes bats very sensitive to disturbances. Even a single, seemingly quiet visit can kill bats that would otherwise survive the winter. If you see hibernating bats, assume you are doing harm and leave immediately.

There is currently no treatment for bats suffering from white-nose syndrome. DEC and the NYS Department of Health are partnering with researchers at several universities across the country to better understand the disease and develop a treatment. They determined that reducing disturbances at hibernation sites during the winter can help the remaining animals survive.

Anyone entering a [northern long-eared bat](#) hibernation site from October 1 through April 30, the typical period of hibernation for bats, may be subject to prosecution.

## DEC Reminds Motorists to be Alert for Deer During the Rut

[White-tailed deer](#) mating season has begun. Deer are more active and less wary than usual. State Farm Insurance estimates that there are over 70,000 deer-vehicle collisions per year in New York. Most deer-vehicle collisions happen in November, but October and December have the next-highest collision rates.

- Be especially careful at dawn and dusk – these are the riskiest times of day.
- Deer travel in groups, so if you see one or two, look for more coming behind them.



Many problems are caused by [deer overabundance](#), which many urban and suburban areas of New York are experiencing.

*Photo by Susan Shafer.*

### *Jennie Cascio*

How do you describe a person that had such compassion for what she was involved in and with - and for living in general?

Jennie was an anchor for our club. She was always recruiting new members, especially as she greeted interested parties at the door of the Freeport Recreation Center at the various Kaleidoscope Shows.

As long as I remember, Jennie would volunteer to work the show and for many years she was in charge of security for the show. She also volunteered to make the food for our show's Friday evenings and for many years made the most delicious egg salad and cole slaw!

We will miss Jennie and her vibrant personality!

Were you at the meetings last year when we showed the DVD's about Energy – *Switch*? The presentation was by Dr. Scott Tinker, a colleague and friend of Janet Zenk's nephew Bud Scherr, who presented the DVD to us.

## Dr. Scott W. Tinker Honored with AGI's Ian Campbell Medal for Service to Geosciences

Submitted by jlilek on Tue, 2018-10-23 11:00



ALEXANDRIA, Va. – The American Geosciences Institute (AGI) is pleased to recognize Dr. Scott W. Tinker, Director and State Geologist of Texas, Bureau of Economic Geology, and Professor at the Jackson School of Geosciences at the University of Texas at Austin, as the 2018 recipient of the AGI Medal in Memory of Ian Campbell for Superlative Service to the Geosciences, AGI's highest award.

Since 2000, Dr. Tinker has led the Bureau of Economic Geology as the premier state geological survey, with over 250 research and support staff and students working on hundreds of international grants and contracts. His distinguished service – from his start in the petroleum industry to his more recent work as an educator and administrator – is superlative.

After earning his B.S. at Trinity University in 1982 with Campbell medalist Ed Roy as his advisor, Tinker entered the petroleum industry with Sneider Exploration in Houston. After a year, he left for the University of Michigan, where he studied carbonates under James Lee Wilson. He earned his M.S. in 1985 and joined Union Pacific Resources. From 1988 to 2000 he rose through the geology ranks at Marathon Oil. Along the way, in 1996, he earned his Ph.D. at the University of Colorado. During those years, he became an expert in carbonate stratigraphy and reservoir characterization and contributed significantly to the peer-reviewed literature. As an educator, he has served on dozens of graduate student committees and taught a graduate course in reservoir characterization.

Dr. Tinker's public service involves frequent testimony and briefings before federal and state legislatures and executive agencies, and he has served on several boards and commissions that influence national energy policies, including the National Research Council's Board on Energy and Environmental Systems (2003-09), the National Academies Roundtable on Unconventional

Hydrocarbon Development (2016-present), and the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (2007-present).

He co-produced the 2012 documentary film *Switch*, which has been viewed by more than 15 million people in over 50 countries, and he is Chairman of the Switch Energy Alliance, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. He is now filming a sequel called *Switch On*, which will focus on global energy poverty. He is passionate about energy education and has given over 750 lectures in 60 countries.

Dr. Tinker has served the geoscience profession admirably at many levels, including as President of AGI (2015-16), the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (2008-09), and the Association of American State Geologists (2007-08), as well as in various capacities for the Society for Sedimentary Geology and the Society of Exploration Geophysicists. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the AAPG Halbouty Medal, the Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies Boyd Medal, and the AGI Award for Outstanding Contribution to Public Understanding of the Geosciences. He is also a Fellow of the Geological Society of America.

Dr. Tinker remembers hearing about the Ian Campbell Medal with friend and colleague Nick Tew. Tinker writes, "It was a very emotional moment, as Nick can attest. So many friends who have put up with my shortcomings and counseled me along the way, especially my wife, Allyson. I feel like I am just getting started, there is so much still to do. My deepest thanks to AGI for this great honor."

The AGI Medal in Memory of Ian Campbell for Superlative Service to the Geosciences is AGI's highest award, given in recognition of singular performance in, and contributions to, the profession of geology. Candidates are measured against the distinguished career of Ian Campbell, whose service to the profession touched virtually every facet of the geosciences. Campbell was a most uncommon man of remarkable accomplishment and widespread influence. In his career as a geologist, educator, administrator and public servant, he was noted for his candor and integrity. The title of the award was changed in 2009 to add "for Superlative Service to the Geosciences" in order to emphasize the importance of service shown by the recipient.

AGI directly, or in cooperation with its member societies, makes a number of awards each year to recognize particular excellence in the geosciences. In addition, AGI works with its member societies to foster nominations of deserving geoscientists for consideration in a number of National Science Awards. To learn more about AGI awards, go to <https://www.americangeosciences.org/awards>.

#### **About AGI**

The American Geosciences Institute (AGI) is a nonprofit federation of 52 scientific and professional associations that represents more than a quarter-million geoscientists. Founded in 1948, AGI provides geoscientists with access to scholarly information, serves as a voice of shared interests in the profession, plays a major role in strengthening geoscience education, and strives to increase public awareness of the vital role the geosciences play in society's use of resources, resiliency to natural hazards, and health of the environment.

AGI is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to serving the geoscience community and addressing the needs of society. AGI headquarters are in Alexandria, Virginia.

*The American Geosciences Institute represents and serves the geoscience community by providing collaborative leadership and information to connect Earth, science, and people.*

AGI Contact: Joseph Lilek, Communications Manager [jlilek@americangeosciences.org](mailto:jlilek@americangeosciences.org) 571.483.5445



It is show time folks!

Please let Cheryl know what position you are interested in manning for the annual show in March!

Island Rock Hounds  
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Carle Place, NY 11514



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## Affiliate Member of:

Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary Societies



American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



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### 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 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 7:30 PM