



The Monongahela Rockhound News is a Monthly Publication of the Monongahela Rockhounds, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

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[www.monongahelarockhounds.org](http://www.monongahelarockhounds.org)

## A Pittsburgh Area Mineral, Fossil, & Lapidary Club

### President's Message

-by Tony Orzano



**Field Trip:** Our first field trip for 2010 will be on Sunday June 6th at Flint Ridge in Ohio. I hope many of our members will be able to make the field trip. It is a fun outing – good for first timers or expert rockhounds alike. It is very family friendly so I hope to see many of our Junior members come out and join the fun. Since

this is a field trip we must think of safety first! Bring proper hammers and chisels-NO BALL PEEN HAMMERS OR CLAW HAMMERS (Mason and brick hammers are good if you do not have a collecting hammer), SAFETY GLASSES, rock pick, shovel, gloves, collecting bucket. Bring a lunch, PLENTY OF DRINKING WATER, and a first aid kit. If you do not know how to do something, do not be afraid to ask one our veteran rockhounds – they will help you with how to do something using safety first.

**Mineral of the Month:** Tourmaline is the mineral of the month, and I know some of our members have very spectacular specimens in their collections. I hope we will get to see some of these at show and tell. Tourmaline specimens are awesome, some of the cut tourmaline gemstones can put the best sapphires and rubies to shame.

**Volunteering:** As always I encourage our members to give of themselves – whether a program idea, volunteer an article for the newsletter or a member profile, volunteer to be hosts for a meeting and last but not least a piece or two for the auction table. All help is appreciated. This is your club make it the best.

**Future Rockhounds of America:** I am very happy to see our Future Rockhounds of America membership climb. As of this writing we have ten members in the FRA. At the beginning of the year we began with four.

Outstanding! During the past month we had four of our Junior members receive several badges towards their Rockhound badge. Good Job! Hope to see all of you at the field trip this month because it will help you earn the field trip badge. As always, I will have a mineral specimen for the Junior members in the FRA.

**Club Picnic:** Our annual picnic is coming up in August. Please bring a covered dish. The Club will provide: hot dogs, condiments, corn, soda, coffee and water. Please bring a good specimen for the auction because this is the Club's big fund raiser, also bring one item (hobby related, and not expensive) for the Rocko prize table. Rocko is a game we play just like bingo except rocks and minerals are on the game board instead of numbers. I hope to see many members at the picnic, There will be more info at the meeting.

**One Last Thought:** You are a rockhound if you name your kids: Jewel, Amber and Rocky. ❖

### SUMMER PICNIC!



Sunday, August 1st! ★ Fun! Food! Excitement!  
★ Auction! ★ ROCKO! ★ Details at the meeting, and in the summer newsletter!

## General Information

### Monongahela Rockhounds

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Pittsburgh, PA 15236

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### Mission Statement

To promote, among its members and the general public, an interest in collection of minerals, fossils, and associated items. • To promote their use in lapidary work. • To promote the study and classification of minerals, gem stones and other items of such nature.

### Club Officers

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| President                      | Tony Orzano  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice-President | Bret Howard  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice-President | Debbie Thompson  |
| Treasurer                      | John Simpson   |
| Recording Secretary            | Sarah Brim   |
| Board of Directors             | June Epp<br>Don Laufer<br>Bret Howard<br>Arlene Fatalino |
| Web Master                     | Michael Moody  |
| Newsletter Editors             | James Moody<br>Marian Atkins                             |

### Affiliations

Member: Eastern Federation of Mineral and Lapidary Societies, Inc.

Member: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

### Meeting Location

Munhall Borough Building  
20th Ave. & West Street  
Munhall, PA 15120

# M. o. t. M.

The Mineral of the Month  
category for June is

# Tourmaline

### When Next We Meet

This month's meeting will be on June 5th. Don Laufer will be presenting on our Mineral of the Month: Tourmaline.

The hosts will be the Lunn and Frantz families - thanks for volunteering!

### Monongahela Rockhound News

is the official newsletter of the Monongahela Rockhounds.

### Disclaimer & Release

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The Monongahela Rockhounds hereby

### Mark Your Calendar- Shows & Events

#### PENNSYLVANIA

June 12-13--BARTO, PENNSYLVANIA: 3rd Annual Show. "Pennsylvania Prospector Mineral and Fossil Show"; Joshua Sloan; Jake's Flea Market, 1380 Rte. 100; Sat. 7-1, Sun. 7-1; free admission; free mineral samples and identification for kids and teachers; contact Joshua Sloan, P.O. Box 118, Bally, PA 19503, (484) 241-5490; e-mail: [josh@papro prospector.com](mailto:josh@papro prospector.com); Web site: <http://PaProspector.com>

June 26-27--STATE COLLEGE, PENNSYLVANIA: Nittany Gem & Mineral Show. Nittany Mineralogical Society. Mt. Nittany Middle School, 656 B...  
**CANCELLED** kids'  
6:  
se  
Glor, 200 Spring Lea Dr., State College, PA 16801; Web site: [www.ems.psu.edu/nms/](http://www.ems.psu.edu/nms/)

July 17-18--ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA: 41st Annual Show. Gem City Rock & Mineral Society. JMC Ice Arena, 423 W. 38th Street. Saturday 10:00-6:00, Sunday 10:00-5:00. Adults \$3, seniors \$2, children under 12 free. Rocks, gems, jewelry, minerals, fossils, wire wrapping, findings, beads, Mini-Mine, Discovery Blocks. Contact Bob Gallivan, (814) 454-6770, e-mail: galli-

The next regular meeting will be held 7:30pm on **September 11**, 2010, at the Munhall Borough Building. ❖

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### Deadline

The editorial staff welcomes all contributions to the newsletter.

Articles and other submissions for publication must be provided to the newsletter editor **2 weeks** prior to the upcoming meeting to be considered for inclusion in that issue. ❖

van@lycos.com; Web Site: [www.gem-cityrockclub.org/show.htm](http://www.gem-cityrockclub.org/show.htm)

August 20-22--LEBANON, PENNSYLVANIA: 13th Annual Show and Sale, Gem Miner's Jubilee. Mid-Atlantic Gem & Mineral Association. Lebanon Expo Center, Route 72 and Rocherty Road. Friday 10:00-6:00, Saturday 10:00-6:00, Sunday 10:00-4:00. Adults \$6, children under 12 free. Gems, jewelry, minerals, fossils, beads. Contact MAGMA, (301) 565-0487, Web site: [www.gem-show.com](http://www.gem-show.com)

#### MASSACHUSETTS

August 13-15--WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS: East Coast Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show. Martin Zinn Expositions LLC. Better Living Center, Eastern States Exposition, 1305 Memorial Drive. Friday 10:00-7:00, Saturday 10:00-7:00, Sunday 10:00-5:00. Adults \$6, ages 12 and under free with adult. More than 200 dealers from the U.S. and abroad, door prizes, guest speakers, museum-quality exhibits, gem panning, large wholesale section, collection of Bill Larson, Pala Int'l. Contact Martin Zinn Expositions, P.O. Box 665, Bernalillo, NM 87004-0665, fax (303) 223-3478, e-mail: [mzexpos@aol.com](mailto:mzexpos@aol.com), Web site: [www.mzexpos.com](http://www.mzexpos.com)