



A Pittsburgh Area Mineral, Fossil, & Lapidary Club

-Our next Meeting will be held this Saturday, November 4th at 7:30 pm, in the Munhall Borough Building.

- Don Laufer will be presenting "Thumbs Up" based on his August rough gem buying trip to Brazil.
- November's mineral of the month will be Quartz
- Hosts for the November Snacks will be Rick and Eila, and Johanna.
- REMEMBER that this meeting will include our Bi-annual Club Election of officers. Basically all positions are open and filled for two years except the Treasurer, which according to our By-Laws, is a long-term position unless the incumbent asks to step down or a vote for new Treasurer is deemed necessary by the other officers. The positions we will be voting on to elect new officers are: 1) President, 2) 1st Vice President, 3) 2nd Vice President, 4) Recording Secretary, 5) Newsletter Editor and 6) Webmaster.

Look forward to seeing you there.

Our Annual Holiday Party is Coming Soon

This year it will be on December 2 at 6:00 pm instead of our normal club meeting. Please note the earlier time for the party than our regular meeting. Why you ask? Well the club pays for the excellent catered food and drinks. All we ask is that everyone brings some type of desert- nothing over the top. Tony will need RSVPs for the party at this Saturday's meeting, or by the 5th of November if you cannot make the meeting. If you can't make meeting E-mail Tony at: tntopal97@comcast.net

A few volunteers are needed to help set-up at around 5:45. After dinner we will have an auction of better minerals and hobby related items donated by your fellow club members. We will also play rocko (our version of bingo). We will need prizes (hobby related) for the game. No more than \$5.00 should be spent towards Rocko.

Please come and have fun and enjoy great food, and a chance to get a perfect mineral specimen at a great deal.

Monongahela Rockhounds Meeting Minutes:

7 Oct 2017

By Debbie T

Presentation

Tony Orzano did a wonderful demonstration on wire wrapping. He used a really pretty agate with a druzy center and wire wrapped it in copper. He put the finished pendant in the evening's silent auction and it was won by Sonnet – much to her delight.

**Silent Auction and Refreshments**

Thanks to everyone who donated and participated in the silent auction, and to Debbie Thompson and Debbie Braddock for the refreshments.

Show and Tell : The monthly theme was oxides

Albert Heinz brought large selection of oxides.

Margaret and Sonnet brought a selection of crinoids and geode items they collected in Indiana recently.

Johanna Burnnett showed some more oxides, brookite in quartz and magnetite in diopside. She also showed stillbite in iron nodules that Debbie Thompson collected from a site in Franklin, PA back in 2005.

Treasurers' report was presented by Tony O. Upcoming costs will be rent, insurance, dues to Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies and payments for the Christmas party. None are due this month.

Business

Election of officers will be next month. Officers hold office for a two year term which begins in January.

No new members were present, but Tony reports a new family has paid dues for membership.

No guests were present.

Reminder from Johanna that tickets can be bought through for the club scholarship activities. Two winners will receive NTE \$500.00 each for payment for club related training through the school of their choice – i.e. lapidary classes, Wildwood Acres, Touchstone, etc. Full details were in the October newsletter.

Christmas party for members is December 2. Meal is catered and provided free. Evening starts early at 6:00 and includes a fabulous meal catered by Our Little Secret Catering. Please be sure to sign up via e-mail or sign-up sheet at meeting so we have a head count for the caterer.

November snacks volunteers are Rick and Eila, and Johanna.

November mineral of the month is Quartz.