



Buffalo Geological Society, Inc.

c/o Heritage Discovery Center
100 Lee Street
Buffalo, NY 14210

CONGRATULATIONS & THANK YOU

Congratulations and thank you to all the Buffalo Geological Society members and volunteers for the extremely successful 55th Annual Gem-Mineral-Fossil Show on March 15 & 16, 2025. This was a great team effort that introduced over 4,291 children and adults to many aspects of geology. Minerals of New York was the theme and there were some of the best exhibits from members featured at the show. Special thanks goes out to the Orton Museum at Ohio State University, the Buffalo Museum of Science, and the New York State Museum for their exhibits of New York minerals. The exhibits and the organizations in the NYS Police Building instilled an interest in geology to children and adults. The Stream Table, from the Fredonia Geology Department was a huge hit with all. Dino Zack provided a presentation on “Fluorescent Minerals” on Saturday and Sunday to packed audiences and received numerous compliments on his presentation. Dr. Kevin Williams provided a presentation on Saturn on Saturday afternoon. The Herkimer “Diamond” exhibit, with large Herkimer ‘Diamond’ crystals from Lee Levesque III was a huge draw from the crowds of visitors. Sandy Cline, internationally renown soapstone carver from Ontario, Canada, entertained visitors with his carvings, techniques, and provided soapstone for some of the children to carve. There were over 33 vendors in rocks, minerals, fossils, cut stones and jewelry. Many of these unique items could be taken home at a reasonable price. Visitors could watch their jewelry sized, geodes cracked and fluorescent rocks change colors right before their eyes.

Thank you to our demonstrators – Darlene Almeter, Dr. Loren Babcock, Bonnie Hird, Bill and Marilyn Broad, Gerry Kloc, Joe LaRussa, Rich Myers – who interacted with the public on fossil cleaning and preparation; tumblers; gem tree creations; cabbing of a variety of stones; viewing of geological specimens through microscopes; identification of fossils and minerals; and answered questions about a variety of geological topics and specimens throughout the show. The Mini-mine for children was a huge success and tons of specimens were mined and taken to a new home. The Mining for Minerals operation was popular with the children and adults alike. Over a 1,000 bags of minerals were

washed and went home with the miners. The club also sold over 700 mineral grab bags during the show.

We thank all those who volunteered loading the truck on Wednesday before the show, those helping with setup on Friday, helping with admissions, the club table, the dismantling of the show, and getting all the cases and equipment back to the box car on Sunday. Special thanks to our dealer co-chairs – Walt and Sandra Drabek – for their roles in coordinating the Dealers, monitoring their payments and answering their questions. They were also of assistance in designing the building layouts and creating our brochure and id badges.

The 56th Annual Show will be featuring “Ancient Life of New York” on March 14-15, 2026, in the Grange-Market Place-NYS Police Bldgs. at the Erie County Fairgrounds. Mark your calendar for this family fun-filled event. Thank you all again for your help and support of this annual event introducing the public to our great hobby.

Jerry Bastedo
Show Chair
Buffalo Geological Society, Inc.