

January 2023



OCMS SHALE MAIL



**Welcome to an in-person meeting Friday
January 13th, 2023 at 6:30 pm!**

See you at: 81 Laroe Rd Chester, **NY** (Town of Chester Recreation Senior Center), (From KINGS HWY, Turn left on Laroe Rd by UPS office building)

[CLICK FOR MAP](#)

2023 CALENDAR

Jan 13 - Rhodochrosite - Inca Rose
Feb 10 - Lecture
Mar 10 - Lecture
Apr 14 - Lecture
May 12 - Lecture
Jun 3-4 Sat Mineral Show and Sale
Jul 14 - Lecture
Aug 11 - Lecture
Sep 9 - Rock BBQ - **Saturday**
Oct 13 - Lecture
Nov 10 - Lecture
Dec 8. - Christmas Party 2023

WHAT'S INSIDE?

Presidents message & Minutes!	2
"Rhodochrosite - Inca Rose"	3
Christmas Party 2022!	3
Wild Acres!	4
Wildacres Registration Form!	5
Sistine Chapel	6
Orange County Mineral Society, Inc. Officers:	8



Mailing Address:

254 Rt. 17K, Suite 204, Newburgh, NY 12550-8300

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE & MINUTES!

President's Message

Please join us in person beginning 6:30PM this Friday, lucky January 13, 2023 to kick off the new year in great style! We are hoping to build on last years successes and more. We will have a business meeting to plan the year: mineral show and sale, field trips and activities. Our speaker will be Derek Yoost , one of our favorite speakers and popular vendor at our sale. We have replenished our raffle stock for 2023. We will have another chance to plan a trip to Albany for the museum and mineral show there.

Thanks to all our members for such a fun year in 2022. The December pot luck dinner meeting was another great success and chance to mingle. Thanks to Mark Kucera for the inspirational presentation and questions session regarding the Wildacres workshops. Several members seemed interested in attending this year. It is time to get the early registrations sent. Special thanks to all our club officers and members that have done so much to keep our club active. The officer list is located in each Shale Mail. We welcome any and all comments and questions for YOUR club. We are actively seeking a person(s) to perform meeting minutes, a webmaster to assist Heather, and any volunteers to help organize a field trip.

Sincere wishes for peace on earth and continued good health for all. Sincerely, Michael G Tedford, MD, MS, MBA President OCMSNY 2021

Minutes of the Meeting

OCMSNY December 2022 Meeting Minutes:

Attendance sheets were completed, Name tags were issued.

Meeting preparations included refreshments, hot entrees, pot luck entrees, and the deluxe auction tables featuring over 70 items. Members began the pot luck dinner prior to the business meeting start.

OCMSNY president Mike Tedford called the meeting to order at approximately 6:45 PM, welcoming the attendees.

Mark Kucera presented the WildAcres workshop to our meeting. He has been a director and attendee there for years. There was a lot of interest from several members to attend. He welcomes any further questions and interest.

Members confirmed they are receiving the emailed Shale Mail , and the November meeting minutes were accepted. Ron Nelson read the balances of the main checking account and show account. He mentioned we to start initiating contacts with vendors for the 2023. Mineral Show and Sale. More possibilities of field trips and mineral shows were discussed briefly. There was enthusiasm and interest to attend the Albany Mineral Show at the State Museum in 2023. Members were reminded that more than one person can be an event. Keep an ear out for possibly tagging along on a trip with any other club. We continue to donate monetary support to 2 pages on the website Mindat. Our website and Facebook page continue to be updated.

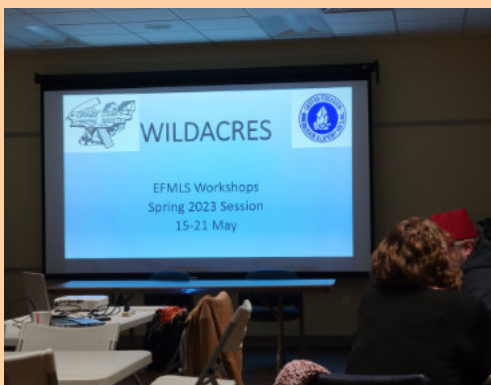
Volunteers and nominations were requested for the OCMSNY 2023 officers. In particular we are seeking extra help in keeping meeting minutes (secretary), webmaster assistance, field trip organizers. Frank Vigilante expressed that he would probably not be available to lead field trips in 2023. The rest of the 2022 officers were unanimously elected to continue in 2023.

Approximately 20 members won 70 items at auction. All members present enjoyed a bountiful and festive meal.

By: Mike Tedford

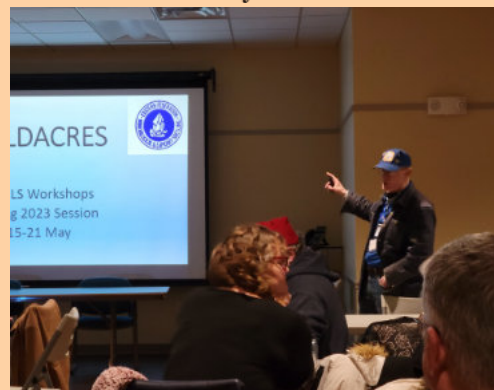
"Rhodochrosite - Inca Rose"

January 13th We will be discussing the scientific properties and various forms that this coveted material comes in and the way that people carve, grind and polish it into jewelry and other objects of art. We will also see some of the famous sites that this material comes from. There will be pieces at the meeting for inspection.



CHRISTMAS PARTY 2022!

By: John Pacut

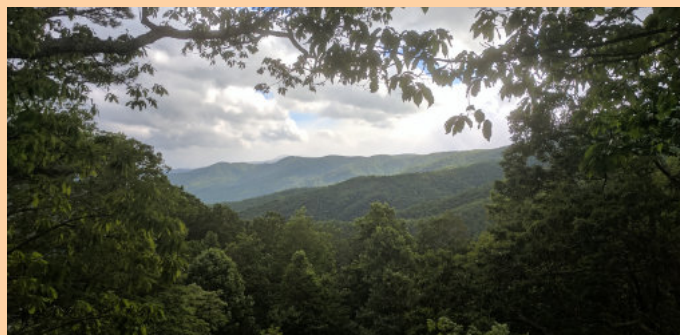


Wild Acres!

By: Mark Kucera

EFMLS Wildacres Session:

The next EFMLS Session at the Wildacres Retreat will be held from 15-21 May 2023. This year marks the fiftieth Anniversary for the sessions. Wildacres is the retreat in the mountains of North Carolina near Asheville. This is where



the Eastern Federation offers lapidary and jewelry classes. The classes are usually introductory or intermediate level, you can walk in with no prior experience. The tools, equipment and supplies are provided. There is typically a materials fee depending on the class in addition to the current \$455 tuition fee. Room and board are included with the tuition.

The instructors are great, the class size is low enough that plenty of personal attention is available. The accommodations, food and camaraderie are top notch. I've attended ten times now and have no plans to miss a session. I will likely continue going many more years until I've attended everything they have to offer.

The classes scheduled for the May Session include: Chainmaille; Faceting; Gem Tree Art; In-



tarsia; Mineral Identification; Silversmithing; Soapstone Carving and Wire Wrapping.

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies also holds two annual workshops at Wildacres. Those are usually held in August and



September. I have not seen the specific dates posted yet for the 2023 sessions.



Both Eastern and Southeastern Federation have more information on their websites.

Wildacres Registration Form!



2023 EFMLS Wildacres Registration

PLEASE, ONLY one person per form session

Spring: May 15 – 21, 2023

For Office Use Only

ID # _____
Date Rec'd _____
Amt. Paid: _____
Ck# _____
Amt. Paid: _____
Ck# _____
Paid in Complete: _____

Please fill out a separate registration form for each person attending and return to JOHN MILLIGAN, 931 Carmichael Rd; Owego, NY 13827-3320. No registration will be accepted prior to January 1, 2023. (To make it easier for the Registrar and others, **please do not change or revise this form.** You may photocopy it as needed.) Please print legibly!

Name (as you wish it to appear on your Name Badge): _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone number with area code: () _____ e-mail: _____

EFMLS Club/Society Affiliation: _____

Fee for each session is \$455.00 per person. Deposit is \$225 per person, payable with Registration.

Make checks payable to "EFMLS". Balance fee is due 30 days prior to start of session.

No postdated checks will be accepted.

Cancellation policy: If unable to attend, fees paid will be refunded if notification is given prior to one month before the session begins. No refund will be made after that date.

Check appropriate responses:

Have you been to Wildacres before? Yes _____ No _____ Is your Society paying your tuition? Yes _____ No _____

Name of Roommate: _____

Are You: Male: _____ Female: _____

Are you a smoker: Yes _____ No _____ (Smoking is not allowed in any building)

Do you have any physical handicaps and/or special dietary needs? Yes _____ No _____

Do you have any sleep issues (i.e., snoring, apnea, C-PAP, etc.)? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please explain on reverse side.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions all participants are required to bring their own pillow and pillowcase to Wildacres and to take them home with you when you leave Wildacres.

Class Pre-Registration

See EFMLS Newsletter or Website (efmls.org/wildacres) for Class Offerings.

You will either be able to take one 4-day class or two 2-day classes. All participants must take classes.

Which of the classes being offered would you like to take? Please indicate at least 3 choices in order of preference for each semester. You will be pre-registered for classes based on your choices, but no class placement is guaranteed. Classes are assigned on a first received, first served basis. Should your preferred class be unavailable for any reason you will be pre-registered for another of your choices. If no alternate class preference is indicated, we will pre-register you in a class of our choosing, based on availability.

1st Semester or 4-day class choices 2

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

2nd Semester

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

(No Registrations accepted prior to January 1, 2023)

Mail Registration to John Milligan, 931 Carmichael Rd; Owego, NY 13827-3320

If you have any questions, please contact either

John Milligan, Registrar, at jmilligan@stny.rr.com or 607-201-4985 or

Mark Kucera, Director, at mark.kucera@yahoo.com or 914-423-8360

Sistine Chapel

By: Keith Allen

Sistine Chapel of the ancients' rock art discovered in remote Amazon forest:

Tens of thousands of ice age paintings across a cliff face shed light on people and animals from 12,500 years ago. One of the world's largest collections of prehistoric rock art has been discovered in the Amazonian rain-forest.

Hailed as “the Sistine Chapel of the ancients”, archaeologists have found tens of thousands of paintings of animals and humans created up to 12,500 years ago across cliff faces that stretch across nearly eight miles in Columbia.

Their date is based partly on their depictions of now-extinct ice age animals, such as the mastodon, a prehistoric relative of the elephant that hasn't roamed South America for at least 12,000 years. There are also images of the palaeolama, an extinct camelid, as well as giant sloths and ice age horses.



These animals were all seen and painted by some of the very first humans ever to reach the Amazon. Their pictures give a glimpse

into a lost, ancient civilization. Such is the sheer scale of paintings that they will take generations to study.

The site is in the Serranía de la Lindosa where, along with the Chiribiquete national park. The discovery was made by a British-Colombian team, funded by the European Research Council. Its leader is José Iriarte, professor of archaeology at Exeter University and a leading expert on the Amazon and pre-Columbian history.



He said: “When you're there, your emotions flow ... We're talking about several tens of thousands of paintings. It's going to take generations to record them ... Every turn you do, it's a new wall of paintings.

“We started seeing animals that are now extinct. The pictures are so natural and so well made that we have few doubts that you're looking at a horse, for example. The ice-age horse had a wild, heavy face. It's so detailed, we can even see the horse hair. It's fascinating.”

Sistine Chapel - Cont.

The images include fish, turtles, lizards and birds, as well as people dancing and holding hands, among other scenes. One figure wears a mask resembling a bird with a beak.

The site is so remote that, after a two-hour drive from San José del Guaviare, a team of archaeologists and film-makers trekked on foot for around four hours.

They somehow avoided the region's most dangerous inhabitants. "Caimans are everywhere, and we did keep our wits about us with snakes," Al-Shamahi said, recalling an enormous bush-master – "the deadliest snake in the Americas with an 80% mortality rate" – that blocked their jungle path. They had been delayed getting back, and it was already pitch black.

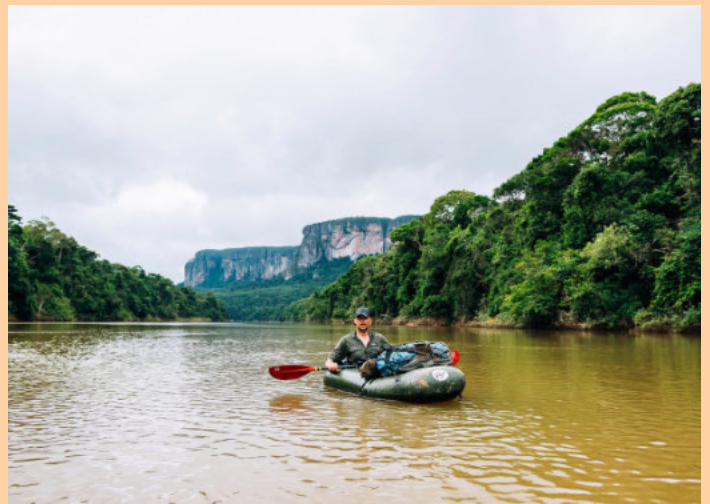


They had no choice but to walk past it, knowing that, if they were attacked, there was little chance of getting to a hospital. "You're in the middle of nowhere," she said. But it was "100%" worth it to see the paintings, she added.

The paintings vary in size. There are numerous hand-prints and many of the images are on that scale, be they geometric shapes, animals or humans. Others are much larger.

Some of the paintings are so high they can only be viewed with drones. Iriarte believes that the answer lies in depictions of wooden towers among the paintings, including figures appearing to bungee jump from them.

Observing that the imagery includes trees and hallucinogenic plants, he added: "For Amazonian people, non-humans like animals and plants have souls, and they communicate and engage with people in cooperative or hostile ways through the rituals and shamanic practices that we see depicted in the rock art."



Al-Shamahi added: "One of the most fascinating things was seeing ice age megafauna because that's a marker of time. I don't think people realized that the Amazon has shifted in the way it looks. It hasn't always been this rain-forest. When you look at a horse or mastodon in these paintings, of course they weren't going to live in a forest. They're too big. Not only are they giving clues about when they were painted by some of the earliest people – that in itself is just mind-boggling – but they are also giving clues about what this very spot might have looked like: more Savannah-like."

"These paintings have a reddish terracotta colour. We also found pieces of ochre that they scraped to make them."

OCMS members are covered by Society-sponsored insurance.

OCMS Disclaimer

The editor and the OCMS are not responsible for the accuracy or authenticity of information in the articles accepted for publication, nor are the opinions expressed therein necessarily those of the officers of the OCMS or the editor.



Clickable Interactive Directory

[OCMS Sponsored Mindat Page](#)

[OCMS sponsored Town Page](#)

[Duke Labs](#)

[Wildacres](#)

[OCMS Facebook](#)

[OCMS Website](#)

[Making Minerals](#)

Orange County Mineral Society, Inc. Officers:

President:	Mike Tedford	(845) 542-6441	<u>Click to email Mike</u>
VP/Programs:	Gary Kerstanski	(845) 978-4141	<u>Click to email Gary</u>
2 nd VP:	Alex Kerstanski		<u>Click to email Alex</u>
3 rd VP:	Ryan Richardson	(845) 629-5120	<u>Click to email Ryan</u>
VP Emeritus/Historian:	Frank Clyne	(845) 361-4710	<u>Click to email Frank</u>
Treasurer:	Ron Nelson	(845) 469-9080	<u>Click to email Ron</u>
Min.Show Chairman:	Ron Nelson	(845) 469-9080	<u>Click to email Ron</u>
Co-Show Chairman:	Gavin Hannah		<u>Click to email Gavin</u>
Membership Com Chair	Brigitte Nesteroke	(845) 386-4119	<u>Click to email Brigitte</u>
Secretary:	Position Open		<u>Click to email</u>
Shale Mail Editor:	Alison Pacut	(845) 902-8562	<u>Click to email Alison</u>
Webmaster:	Heather Shields	(845) 649-9623	<u>Click to email Heather</u>
Field Trip Leader	Frank Vigilante	(570) 618-2770	<u>Click to email Frank</u>