

BULLETIN



"An organization of people in the Natural Sciences"

Note to librarians: The volume numbering of issues dated Oct. 2012 through Nov. 2013 was incorrect. Correct numbering resumes with this issue.

December, 2013 - Vol. 67, #10



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Another busy year for the Academy is coming to a close and we can look back with pride at our accomplishments. As always, the learning opportunities for our members at Section meetings and field trips are excellent and keep us coming back for more. Attention to families with youngsters is another focus of Sections who have willing mentors. The enthusiasm generated by special meetings for kids to learn about minerals and the first summer science camp at our observatory in Ionia is good reason to keep these activities going.

Your enthusiasm for teaching the public and engaging them in activities, whether sun watching or hunting for minerals in a quarry, is extraordinary as well! A long list of public programs includes our presence at Mendon Ponds Park for outdoor events in the winter and spring, Science Exploration Days, many Planetarium telescope observations, and star parties in

public parks. The Academy's Spring Lecture and the Fall Paper Session are additional ways we accomplish promoting education of the public on scientific matters.

Thank you all for your active participation and to those of you who take on the additional responsibilities of leadership!

Jutta Dudley,
President RAS

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FALL PAPER SESSION A SUCCESS

The annual RAS Fall Paper session was attended by 300 people. Hosted by Nazareth College on November 9, the event was organized by Professor William Hallahan (also RAS Treasurer and Fellow) with the aid of the biology department secretary. The new Peckham Hall served as a fine venue for the talks and posters that were spread across three floors.

The day was a great opportunity for students, faculty, and others from across western New York to showcase their research studies. Thirty-three oral presentations were given during six sessions (three sessions concurrent at a time) covering numerous topics

from biology, chemistry, physics, earth sciences, and education. Faculty from Nazareth, RIT, and RAS members moderated the sessions. At the poster session that followed, attendees had the freedom to visit 100 posters and discuss one-on-one with the researchers.

After lunch in the Otto Shults Center, the annual Larry King Memorial Lecture was delivered by Dr. Roger Easton, Jr., of RIT. His talk, "Imaging Technologies and the Impending New Golden Age in Manuscript Studies" showed us the amazing transformation of texts, long hidden by erasures or damage to ancient manuscripts, from being invisible to being readable. Improvements in imaging and computer processing continue to pave the way for more historical revelations. What a marvelous boon to scholars!

* * *



*to keep
your RAS membership
updated.*

*Renewal form on next
page* →

RAS BOD Nominations for 2014 Election Wanted

Each year the Academy elects officers and directors at the Spring Meeting to the Board of Directors to oversee the operations of the Academy. We are looking for members who will participate in the monthly Board meetings and help guide Section and Academy activities. The following positions have **no candidates**:

Recording Secretary: Responsible for taking minutes at meetings and distributing to the BOD. Elected for one year. **OPEN**

Membership chair: Provides information about the academy at public events we participate in. Develops strategies to find and keep members. Helps treasurer maintain an updated membership list. Elected for one year. **OPEN**

Director: Participates in BOD meetings and Academy events. Elected for a 3-year term. **OPEN.**

The Nominations committee will present a slate at the January 15, 2014 BOD meeting. If you are interested in filling an open position indicated above, contact nominations chair Karen Wolf

(karen_wolf@urmc.rochester.edu, 670-9709) **before December ends** and the nominations committee will consider your request. All officer positions & expiring directorships not listed above are contestable. Our by-laws allow a member with a petition signed by ten other members, to be placed on the ballot. This petition, along with a brief sketch of the candidate's qualifications, must be received by the Secretary by **February 1, 2014**. Ballots are mailed to members in the RAS Bulletin a month prior to the election at the annual Spring Meeting.

It's membership renewal time!

2014 Rochester Academy of Science, Inc.

Membership Form

Mail to:

R.A.S. c/o

William L. Hallahan

6658 North Avon Rd.

Honeoye Falls, NY 14472

[] New

[] Renewal

Name _____ E-mail _____

Street _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ - _____

For your convenience, please pay your dues to the R.A.S. and its sections with a single check. **Make check payable to: Rochester Academy of Science, Inc.**

CIRCLE the amount you are paying for an R.A.S. category and for the section(s) in which you wish membership.

Membership Categories <i>R.A.S. dues are a prerequisite for section membership</i>	Rochester Academy of Science	Anthropology Section	Astronomy Section	Life Sciences Section	Fossil Section	Mineral Section	Total
Member (Individual over age 18)	\$10.00	\$2.00	\$17.00	\$2.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	
Family (Including students to age 18)	\$15.00	\$3.00	\$22.00	\$3.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	
Student (K to full-time undergrad.)	\$5.00	\$1.00	\$5.00	\$1.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	
Supporting (Individual or family)	\$20.00	*****	\$30.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	
Patron (Individual or family)	\$30.00	*****	\$50.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	
Life (Individual only)	\$200.00	*****	\$300.00	\$40.00	*****	*****	
Gift (Thank you!) Fill in amount ⇒							
Check box if you are interested in serving on a committee ⇒ ⇒ ⇒ ⇒ ⇒							

Events for December, 2013

For updates to events, check the Academy website, <http://www.rasny.org>, and Section websites.

NO RAS BOD MEETING IN DECEMBER

NO ANTHROPOLOGY SECTION MONTHLY MEETING IN DECEMBER

NO LIFE SCIENCES OR HERBARIUM MEETINGS IN DECEMBER

DECEMBER EVENTS

Tuesday 3 FOSSIL SECTION

7:30 p.m.- 9:00 p.m. Brighton Town Hall, Downstairs Meeting Room. Annual Show 'n Tell. Bring your finds from the last field season and any unidentified specimens you are puzzling over. Pizza will be served. For more information, contact Dan Krisher at (585) 293-9033.

Friday 6 ASTRONOMY SECTION

7:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m. Annual Holiday Party. 8:00 p.m. Member Images and Star Show. **DO NOT GO TO RIT!** Guests welcome! Bring an appetizer or dessert to share. For more information, contact Valerie Rapson at 301-3424.

Saturday 7 MINERAL SECTION

6:00 p.m. Annual Holiday Dinner. Penfield United Methodist Church, 1795 Baird Road, Penfield 14526. Member Dr. Stephen Chamberlain, will speak on “Recent Mineral Discoveries in New York State.” Bring a dish to add to the buffet table. Mineral Section will provide meat, rolls, place settings, & beverages. Save the date for this wonderful family event. Help is needed with setup and tear-down.

Monday 9 ASTRONOMY SECTION

7:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m. U of R, Bausch & Lomb, Chart Room. ASRAS Board meeting. Contact Valerie Rapson at 301-3424.

FUTURE EVENTS JANUARY

Saturday 11 HERBARIUM

Life Sciences section will hold a workshop at the RAS Herbarium, located in the basement of the Rochester Museum and Science Center (RMSC). No experience needed! Plan to come and help with this valuable collection – and see some interesting plants! If you plan to attend, please send an RSVP to Elizabeth Pixley. Then, at RMSC, go to the front desk and ask staff person there to call ext. 368, the phone in the Herbarium. For more information, contact Elizabeth Pixley, herbarium curator (334-0977 or epixley@rochester.rr.com).

Tuesday 15 MINERAL SECTION

7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. Brighton Town Hall, Downstairs Meeting Room. Dr. Gary Solar from Buffalo State College will speak. Topic to be determined. Door prizes and refreshments. Visitors welcome. For more info, contact Stephen Busschaert, 1st VP, at mineralvp@rasny.org or 585-288-5683.

ONGOING EVENT

ASRAS will operate the telescope, or one on the sidewalk, at Strasenburgh Planetarium on mostly clear Saturday nights. Contact Jim Seidewand at (585) 703-9876.

*Happy Winter
Solstice!
Best Wishes for the
New Year!*



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ABOUT THE ACADEMY - The Rochester Academy Of Science, Inc. is an organization that has been promoting interest in the natural sciences since 1881, with special focus on the western New York state region. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in science. Dues are minimal for the Academy and are listed in the membership application. Each Section also sets dues to cover Section-related publications and mailings.
 For applications and/or more information, contact Jutta Dudley, 140 Railroad Mills Road, Pittsford, NY 14534; by telephone (585) 385-2368; or by e-mail <pres@rasny.org>. The **Academy** Internet website is <http://www.rasny.org>
 Or see us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/RochesterAcademyOfScience>

This “**BULLETIN**” is produced monthly, *except July and September*, by the **Astronomy Section, Rochester Academy of Science**. Submissions are due by the 10th of the month, and may be emailed to editor@rasny.org

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