EFMLS NEWS

Information for Members of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary Societies

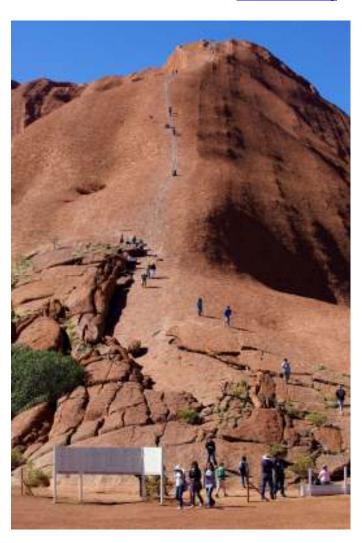


Volume 70, Number 8 **June 2023**

Access to Past Newsletters

Past issues of the EFMLS News may be found at https://efmls.org/newsletters/ the password is "blackopal"

The EFMLS website can be found at www.EFMLS.org.



Deadline is the 15th of each month prior to publication date (i.e., March 15 for April issue). If you cannot meet the deadline, please contact the editor. Issues are normally not published during July nor August. Non-commercial reprint permission is granted unless otherwise reserved. EFMLS News is the official newsletter of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, Inc.

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EFMLS Officers 2022-2023

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Open	2 nd Vice President	
Open	Secretary	
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Ellery Borow	Immediate Past President	rocknellery@fairpoint.net
Barbara Ringhiser	Past President's Advisory Council	bar5678@aol.com
Cheryl Brown	General Show Chairman	gmssrocks@gmail.com

EFMLS Nominating Committee Report

Nominated officers for the 2023-2024 term:

President - Bill Stephens, PG

1st VP - Larry Huffman

2nd VP – Andrew Eppig

Treasurer – Barbara Ringhiser

Secretary – Cheryl Neary

Editor – Dan Imel

Nominating Committee Members – (2 people) In Progress



EASTERN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND LAPIDARY SOCIETIES

73rd National Convention July 7 – 9, 2023

Host: Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse

Show location: Center of Progress Building, NYS Fairgrounds
581 State Fair Blvd., Syracuse, NY 13209





Primary Registrant (Registration will be recorded un your name badge.)	nder this name – please pro	vide name and tit	ie as you want them i	to appear on
	Title			
(Please print clearly) Address Ci	ty	State	_ Zip	
Email	Phone			
Club Affiliation		Competitor	🗆 🗆	7
Additional Registrants:		case Exhibitor	: Yes	
	,			
Check all that apply:	Club			
EFMLS Officer Editor Delegat	te Demonstrator			
EFMLS Past President Deale	Alt. Delegate	Noncomp	etitive Exhibitor	
CONVENTION ACTIVITIES (Convention All activities (except Show) are at the H 400 Seventh North St., Liverpool, NY. Room rate \$149.0 included. Bring your tax-exempt certificate to avoid 15% t June 9, 2023.	Holiday Inn & Suites, 10/night (single or double). Breakf		Amount per person	Total amount
GMSS Show Fee – 2-day pass			\$5.00	
EFMLS Cracker Barrel @ 4:00pm Friday, 7/7/23			NC	
EFMLS Annual Meeting @ 7:30pm Friday, 7/7/23			NC	
EFMLS Editor's Breakfast - 8:00 – 10:00am, Saturday, 7/8/2 No charge if you are staying at the Holiday Inn. \$20.00 if yo			\$20 if not staying at the hotel	
EFMLS Annual Auction at the Show @ 2:00pm Saturday, 7/	/8/23		NC	
EFMLS Annual Banquet – Happy Hour @ 6:00, Dinner @ 7:	00 7/8/23		\$45.00	
Field Trips 1 & 2: Salt Museum & Paleontological Institu additional sheet for more information.	ute – on your own – any time. Se	e the	NC	
Field Trip 2: Mohawk Valley Mineral Mining – Herkimer of Monday 7/10/23 354B Moyer Road, Sprakers, NY. Leave from the hotel at 8		ounty.	\$75.00	
Total Amount Enclosed				

Make checks payable to: GMSS

Please send this form and check to: Cheryl Brown @ PO Box 125, Camillus, NY 13031

EFMLS Saturday Banquet Menu Choices

Please select your menu choice and return this with your regist	ration form.
	6oz. Rib Eye
Primary Registrant (Your Name)	(Doneness) (served with salt potatoes and broccoli)
	Grilled Norwegian Salmon (served with salt potatoes and broccoli)
	Chicken Parmesan with Ziti Marinara
Additional Registrant (Your Name)	6oz. Rib Eye(Doneness) (served with salt potatoes and broccoli)
	Grilled Norwegian Salmon (served with salt potatoes and broccoli)
	Chicken Parmesan with Ziti Marinara
Additional Registrant (Your Name)	6oz. Rib Eye(Doneness) (served with salt potatoes and broccoli)
	Grilled Norwegian Salmon (served with salt potatoes and broccoli)
	Chicken Parmesan with Ziti Marinara
Vegan and vegetarian options are available upon request.	
Please indicate here if you would like a vegan or veg	getarian option.

EFMLS 2023 Conference Field Trips

Field Trip 1 – any time - on your own

Salt Museum 106 Lake Drive Liverpool, NY 13088 Hours: 10am – 4pm

Free admission.

Discover the industry that created the City of Syracuse and supplied the entire nation with salt! Explore the site of an original boiling block where brine (salt water) was turned into what was then considered one of the country's most precious commodities. See the actual kettles, wooden barrels and other equipment that were used in this fascinating process which came to an end in the 1920's.

The museum, located on the shore of Onondaga Lake, is full of dynamic exhibits and artifacts. Constructed from timbers taken from actual salt warehouses, it provides an old-time rustic experience during your visit.

Field Trip 2 – any time – on your own

PRI – Paleontological Research Institute 1259 Trumansburg Road

Ithaca, NY

Hours: 10am - 5pm Thursday - Monday

Admission: \$12.50 adult, \$9.50 senior 65+, college student with ID \$9.50, youth (4 – 17) \$7.50

The Paleontological Research Institution's Museum of the Earth was established in 2003 to provide the general public with a unique opportunity to explore our world through a mix of natural history displays, interactive science features, and art exhibitions. The museum's 8,000-square-foot permanent exhibition takes visitors on a journey through 4.5 billion years of history, from the Earth's origin to the present day. Through hands-on, visual exhibitions and outreach, the Museum of the Earth encourages critical thinking about life on Earth in the past and today, and how our species is affecting the natural world.

Field Trip 3 - Monday, July 10, 2023

Mohawk Valley Mineral Mining 354B Moyer Road Sprakers, NY 12166

Cost: \$75.00 per person (this is a 40% discount off the regular price)

We will leave the hotel at 8am and drive to the mine to spend the day digging for Herkimer diamonds. It will take about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour to get to the mine from Syracuse.

This is the location where the largest Herkimer diamond on record was found. It's known for its water clear crystals.

Herkimer diamonds are <u>double-terminated</u> <u>quartz</u> crystals discovered within exposed outcrops of <u>dolomite</u> in and around <u>Herkimer County</u>, <u>New York</u> and the <u>Mohawk River</u> Valley. Not actually <u>diamonds</u>, the "diamond" in their name is due to both their clarity and natural faceting - crystals possess double termination points and 18 total faces (six on each point, six around the center). Because the first discovery sites were in the village of <u>Middleville</u> and in the city of <u>Little Falls</u>, respectively, the crystal is also known as a **Middleville diamond** or a **Little Falls diamond**. (From Wikipedia)

<u>Deadline for the September 2023 Issue of</u> the EFMLS News is August 15, 2023. Send to Dan Imel (lapidry@aol.com)

Dan Imel, Editor, EFMLS News

AFMS Scholarship Foundation

Steve Weinberger

The AFMS Scholarship Foundation was established to provide scholarship money to deserving graduate students majoring in the earth sciences. By the time students are in graduate school they have a good idea of future goals.

To date, we have provided over \$2 million in scholarship assistance. Monies donated go into a permanent fund from which the interest and dividends provide the scholarships. In this way, the fund grows enabling more stipends to be awarded.

Individuals and clubs may contribute and the donations are credited and acknowledged. Each time a club contributes and reaches one dollar per member, the club advances another 100% level. Donations are cumulative so they do not have to be sent all at once. Currently, we are providing \$4,000 each to two students in six of the seven regional federations (that's \$48,000 per year.)

Contributions can also be made in memory of someone who has been active in your club, recognizing special events, or just on an annual basis, if you so choose.

When you contribute, be sure to include your club's name, number of members, and the name of who sent it (usually the treasurer), so that proper acknowledgement can be made.

Make checks out to "AFMS Scholarship Foundation" and send to

P.O. Box 302 Glyndon, MD 21071-0302.

A Case of Black and White Light Safety Matters

Ellery Borow

The universe is filled with energy. Its energy all around us, all the time. It's also an energy mankind has utilized to do amazing things. Our concern here is about the safe use of some of that black and white energy in the rock and mineral hobby. But first, some background information:

Picture, if you will, ocean waves roiling on a beach. There is lots of energy there. The distance from one wave crest to the following wave crest is called a wave length. Ocean wave crests can vary from a few inches to many yards in distance. The energy in those waves Communications and involvement are our keys to success.

varies with the longer and shorter wave lengths. In the universe we have waves of a different nature, that of electromagnetic energy. The waves of energy there are named cosmic rays, gamma rays, x-rays, ultra violet / visible / infrared rays, hertzian (radar and television) waves and the very long waves of what we call our radio waves. The electromagnetic wave lengths just mentioned range from far, far, far smaller than the thickness of sheet of paper to about a half a mile long.

This spectrum of electromagnetic energy is used for studying the universe, medical imaging x-rays, lighting our homes, entertaining ourselves with television and radio, to studying rocks and minerals. We use the ultraviolet light portion of the electromagnetic spectrum in our Ultra-violet ("black light") mineral lamps. In the mineral hobby we further divide a portion of the spectrum into short ultraviolet (UV) waves and long ultra-violet waves – the short and long waves of our UV lamps.

Our star generates infra-red energy – heat energy. Waves shorter than those are visible light – allowing us to see the colors red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple/violet. The red waves are longer, the violet ones are shorter. Beyond the visible spectrum we have the shorter waves of the ultra-violet band. This is where the erythemal rays, the sun-burning rays are found. Yes, our UV lamps can "sun" burn our skin, severely damage our eyes, and cause great harm if not used carefully. The area between the short and long UV rays is where the sun-burning rays reside.

It used to be that UV lamps were expensive due to housings; special bulbs and tubes; and costly glass filters. The people who bought such lamps were careful to use them cautiously, safely, Now-a-days relatively low cost light emitting diode (LED) are proliferating. People are having a world of fun with UV lamps and may not realize all of the safety concerns with their use. That said, modern UV LED light designs vary greatly. Some designs may produce UV light in the danger zones. It is wise therefore to read the light's instruction and heed their requirements so as to use the lights with an eye to being safe.

People are strongly urged not to look at the sun without proper eye protection. The sun is bright and emits UV energy. The same goes for UV lamps. While we cannot see this black light energy – the potential for damage is of great concern because of that fact – the fact that we cannot see it and may not know we are being exposed to the damaging rays.

Here are some tips to mind when using UV lamps.

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- Keep the lamp from pointing at exposed skin and eyes
- Keep the lamps shades and guards in place.
- Be careful of reflected UV light. (Yes, light can reflect from the water and other reflective surfaces, including some minerals, and cause a sunburn UNDER the brim of our hats.)
- If the UV lamp is used in a display at a rock show, ensure the lamp's UV rays cannot be seen by patrons (one may use a test rock to help with this evaluation. Note, kids love to look up into the light to see what is up there.
- At a show's UV display, place some kind of wire cloth or wire mesh at the front of the display to keep people's hands away and assure people cannot move close enough to look up into the lights. Or perhaps place a clear acrylic barrier in front of display to protect patrons. Where that may not be possible offer UV protective glasses / face shields. (Which adds the complexity of sterilization of the eyewear between users.)
- Also please consider posting a safety warning that the display has UV light in use. Be mindful of prolonged use of UV light – especially for volunteers in the UV display area. One will not receive a sunburn immediately upon exposure from a UV lamp, however, prolonged exposure is a problem. The closer to the light source – the greater the energy and the greater the risk of skin and eye damage.

When in doubt of a UV lamp's risks, read and abide by its safety and use instructions. White or black light - your Safety Matters.

Follow up – an LED UV lamp is a valuable teaching tool. In the mineral hobby there are a great many experiments, tests, games, learning experiences, fun and fascinating things to do with UV lamps and kids love the bright colors (and I do too).

Sharing the Load

Ellery Borow

One person does not a club make.

While there are member clubs with just one or two persons doing most of the work, the vast majority of clubs have a plethora of dedicated people sharing the load of work to make a club function. Then there are the people who like doing a particular job, and want to keep doing it year after year. They may be the best ever field trip coordinator, show chair, show chairperson or perhaps club editor and want to keep doing what they do so well. Clubs generally very willing to accept those labors of love.

The Club Rockhound of the Year program is to encourage clubs to recognize the wonderful effort of their dedicated year after year, after year, after year effort in

support of their club. To recognize that effort please consider making such a volunteer your clubs honoree in the CROY program.

To participate in the CROY program here are the rules and guidelines –

Tour club chooses their honoree, prepares a brief 70 word describing their good works, and sends the information to me with the name of the club, the name of the honoree and the name and title of the person sending in the information. The EFMLS CROY committee will do the rest and have the honoree's name and effort mentioned the pages of the EFMLS and AFMS newsletters.

Clubs may send in one honoree's name per year (or two if a couple) and one Junior member's name. Next year a club may select and send in another name. Most all clubs have a bevy of exceptional candidates for their CROY honor. They just need to exemplify the good work and spirit of volunteering excellence that helps the club in some way.

We hope to hear from you as surely your club has such year, after year, after year dedicated volunteers. Clubs would not manage as well as they do without them.

Uniform Rules or Club Rules

Ellery Borow

Numerous clubs encourage members to put an exhibit or display at their club show. Some clubs encourage the visiting public to vote on the cases for perhaps most colorful, most curious, most well laid out, most interesting, or perhaps most beautiful case. There really are not any rules except for personal opinions. It can really be fun to win a best of show blue ribbon.

At a show, it is always encouraging to see members putting their best effort, their heart, into making those wonder-filled exhibits. Its also wonderful to see the expressions on their faces when an exhibitor win a blue ribbon – and the determination of the non-winners to do better next year.

There are others who have a drive to collect and display the best. If they have a good cassiterite, they are often on the look-out for an even better cassiterite. With that kind of drive toward excellence there is often a wish to exhibit their quest for the best at a club show. It is, after all, quite a challenge to always be on the watch for better specimens through barter, purchase, or self-collect.

The search for the best can be found most everywhere – with minerals, fossils, thumb-nails, large cabinet size specimens, lapidary art, or gems. The Uniform Rules (UR) of the American Federation provide guides and suggestions as to encourage exhibitors to present the best exhibits, to have the most accurate labels, to consider the best presentation of the specimens being displayed. The UR are not for comparing one exhibit case to the one beside it but to certain standards of quality in the pursuit of excellence – and obtain the best

Communications and involvement are our keys to success.

score of the UR judges. It may be a bit more stressful for some but just as much fun in the challenge.

With whatever you choose – Uniform Rules or Club Rules – keep the excitement, creativity, passion, determination, showmanship, and the fun in mind.

EFMLS Convention News

Cheryl Brown

The Eastern Federation Convention is drawing near, and the Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse is looking forward to hosting everyone during our July show. This is the largest club show in the Northeast featuring 52 retail vendors, 5 wholesale vendors and 5 metaphysical practitioners in a 60,000 square foot building. There is a lot to see and do at the show. We have great door prizes and hourly drawings. Come in the morning and stay all day.

Club members fill about 25 display cases. We have additional cases which you can fill or you can bring your own to set up on Friday.

Please take note of the deadlines. The Convention Advance Registration form must be submitted by June 7, 2023. The deadline for making reservations in the block of rooms we have reserved at a discounted rate at the convention hotel is June 9, 2023. Please make your reservation by calling the hotel at 315-451-1511. *IMPORTANT:* DO NOT select the Reservation option! Wait on the line and make your reservation at the Front Desk. Also, please bring a copy of your club's tax-exempt form to avoid paying additional taxes and fees.

All the meetings and the banquet will be held in the hotel – no traveling! The auction will be held at the show on Saturday at 1:30. See you in July!

Shows and Swaps

If you would like to see your club show, swap or other public event listed here, please send your information to the editor by the tenth of the month preceding the event or earlier.

June 3-4, 2023 –Orange County Mineral Society Annual Mineral, Gem, Fossil and Jewelry Show, June 3 - 10 am to 5 pm, June 4, - 10 am to 4 pm. Museum Village 1010 Route 17 M, Monroe

June 10, 2023 - multi-club get-together at the Sterling Hill Mine Pavilion on Saturday, June 10, 2023. Meet and Greet will begin at 10AM. You can collect on the 2 front Mine Piles (Mine Run Dump and Worldwide Pile), which includes fluorescents and daylight specimens so you should bring your lamp, if you have one, or you could use the light in the shed that is in the middle of the Worldwide Pile and one of the Mine Run Piles- from 10AM-12PM. Poundage Fee will be \$2.00 / lb. (try to keep it to a max of 5 lbs.), and there will be no admittance / entry fee aside from the per Poundage rate. 12PM Lunch - \$5.00 per person for hot dog, hamburger, and trimmings (tickets will be provided for 1 hotdog & 1 hamburger) Payment can be made as follows: Zelle to dianatasco@yahoo.com , Diana Tasco OR Check can be mailed to Diana Tasco, 73 Shore Road, Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849 Please bring your favorite potluck dish or desert to be shared by all and whatever you like to drink. PLEASE EMAIL dianatasco@yahoo.com WHAT YOU WILL BE BRINGING, SO WE DON'T DOUBLE UP ON SAME ITEMS. It is advised that you bring a chair, as only picnic benches are available. 1PM - Mine Tour for those interested. Tour costs are \$14.00 for adults, \$13.00 for seniors 65+, \$11.00 for children 4-12 years old, Free for children under 4 years old - Please rsvp dianatasco@yahoo.com if you will be going on the tour so that the mine has enough tour guides on hand

July 7-9, 2023 – EFMLS Annual Convention in Syracuse, NY hosted by the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, NY. Mark your calendar now. More information will be forthcoming.

June 24 & 25 - The Gilsum, NH 57th Annual Rock Swap, Saturday, 8 am - 6 pm, Sunday, 8 am - 4 pm - www.gilsum.org Recreation Committee, Email: gilsumrocks@gmail.com Web site: www.gilsum.org. Mailing address: P.O. Box 76, Gilsum, NH 03448

July 22 - July 23. 2023 - 42nd Annual Champlain Valley Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show, Show Theme: "From Rocks to Gemstones" Quality dealers offering minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry, lapidary equipment and supplies, and books; demonstrations, exhibits, a fish pond for kids, fossil and mineral identification, hourly door prizes, raffle, and silent auctions. Refreshments available • Free parking Admission: Adults \$4, Seniors 60 and over \$3 Kids under 16 FREE with paying adult

July 22-23, 2023 - Lancaster County Fossil and Mineral Club Christmas in July Extravaganza. Farm and Home Center 1383 Arcadia Rd, Lancaster, PA. An extensive array of rocks, minerals, fossils, and jewelry! Enjoy hot food, children's activities, and expert specimen analysis. Great for all ages! Adults: \$4.00 • Seniors (63+): \$3.00 Students K-12: \$1.00 • Under 5: Free. Admission purchased on Saturday is valid both days of the event!

July 22-23, 2023 - The Monongahela Rockhounds Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show, Saturday, July 22, 2023,10 am to 6 pm, Sunday, July 23, 2023,10 am to 4 pm. West Mifflin Volunteer Fire Co., #4 Skyview Hall, 660 Noble Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15122. Admission is FREE. See http://www.monongahelarockhounds.org for more information Contact: Show@monongahelarockhounds.org

August 3-6, 2023 - AFMS and Northwest Federation of Mineral Societies Annual Convention, Billings, Montana.

August 26-27, 2023 - St. Lawrence Co. Rock & Mineral Club's 56th Annual Show. Canton Pavilion, 90 Lincoln St. Canton, NY, Sat. 9:00-4:30 PM Sunday 9:00-2:00 PM. Admission \$4.00 Adults, Children under 12 free. Free mineral kits for kids, field trip Sat. @ 9:00, Silent Auctions both days. Wire wrapping class by Dave Millis. Amethyst Cathedral raffle, drawing Sunday at 2:00 PM. Fluorescent mineral hunt for kids on Friday night at dusk, lights provided.

September 9-10 - Danbury Mineralogical Society 2023 Gem, Jewelry, Mineral & Fossil Show, September 9 - September 10, Saturday & Sunday, September 9 & 10, 2023. Sat 10 - 5, Sun 10 - 4. Admission: \$5 adults, \$4.00 seniors and full time-students with ID. Free admission for kids 11 and under and Scouts in uniform. At least 16 dealers with minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry, related crafts, and more. Displays, door prizes, mineral identification, etc.

October 28-29, 2023 – Rochester Gem, Mineral, Jewelry and Fossil Show. 10am-5pm Saturday, 10am to 5pm Sunday. Total Sports Experience. 435 West Commercial Street, East Rochester, NY. Children's activities, hourly drawings, about 30 dealers.

November 11, 2023 – Friends of Mineralogy- Pennsylvania Chapter Symposium, Johnstown, PA. **FIELD TRIP** November 12 Symposium for mineral collecting enthusiasts Friday evening Nov. 10: Meet & Greet - bring your mineral specimens to talk about. Saturday Nov. 11: Hybrid Symposium - Online or In Person 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Saturday November 11, 2023, 8:30am – 5:00pm, at the Heritage Hall of the Living Learning Center at the University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown PA Talks by knowledgeable speakers on Pennsylvania Mineralogy and Geology Expanded Sales by Select Dealers - Silent Auction - Give-away Table – Conversation with Professional Geologists: Five Professional Development Hour credits available for full lecture attendance Sunday Nov. 12: Field Trip to New Paris Quarry. Open only to symposium registrants. Watch for details, registration form, changes and updates on our web site: www.rasloto.com/FM or Friends of Mineralogy Pennsylvania on Facebook

Regional Vice Presidents (RVP'S)

Region 1	Ellery Borow	1-207-547-3154	rocknellery@fairpoint.net
Region 2	Cheryl Neary	1-516-449-5341	ciervo.neary@gmail.com
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Region 4	Bill Stephens	1-302- 540-3453	bstephens@stephensv.com
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Region 6	Larry Huffman	1-828-612-4469	ldhuff314@embarqmail.com
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Region 8	K.C. Foster	1-561-523-4600	katrinkaper@yahoo.com

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		•	
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AFMS Scholarship Foundation (1)	Steve Weinberger	410-833-7926	cscrystals2@gmail.com
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Auction	Cheryl Neary	516-499-5341	ciervo.neary@gmail.com
Audit/Review	Open		
Boundaries ⁽¹⁾	Open		
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Club Rockhound Of The Year (1)	Ellery Borow	207-547-3154	rocknellery@fairpoint.net
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Historian	Open	202 540 2452	
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Operating Procedures	Open	717 606 1600	with a wais @ with a wais a second
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	Open		
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	Cheryl Brown	315-487-6009	gmssrocks@gmail.com
LS Representative to American Federation	•		lated February 25, 2023
is representative to rune near rederation	on (a mo) committee.	Opt	acca / co/ aa/ y 25, 2025

 $\ensuremath{^{\text{(1)}}}$ EFMLS Representative to American Federation (AFMS) committee.