Franklin-Ogdensburg Mineralogical Society

March Midmonth Update

***DIG UPDATE* FOR ALL 2026 DIGS**
MEMBERS ONLY ON DIGS (CHECKED AT SITE)
RSVP REQUIRED, ONE WEEK PRIOR TO DIG (MARCH 14TH, THIS MONTH)
NO ADDITIONAL RESERVATION NECESSARY
To RSVP, simply email us at
Email: digs@foms-nj.us

Dig details
Saturday, March 21, 2026
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Meetup at **Franklin Mineral Museum**, 8:30 a.m.
Fowler Quarry, 9 a.m.–12 noon dig.
All PPE required. No minors.

*See the new Fowler Quarry webpage

Meeting 1:30–3:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 21, 2026
Franklin Mineral Museum, members and public invited
32 Evans St., Franklin, NJ 07416

Speaker
Dr. Earl Verbeek will be giving his talk from the GANJ October 2025 conference. See the downloadable GANJ Guidebook and data. *Dr.* Verbeek will discuss the five episodes of faulting that affected the Sterling Hill ore deposit and relate each of them to the minerals that formed over time in response to those events.

St. Patrick's Day Photo Contest Winner!

Congratulations to Jeannie Stroud for her stunning photo.



*St. Patrick Blessing the Franklin Calcites, Willemites, and Barites Ahead of His Feast Day!*Photograph by Jeannie Stroud, St. Thomas Church.

Looking Ahead to April

April 1st: Franklin Mineral Museum opens at 11 a.m.!
At noon, join us at the FMM for a casual rockhound get-together. Dig, socialize with FOMS friends, and renew your FMM membership. For questions, email info@foms-nj.us.

Dig: Saturday, April 18, 2026
Braen Franklin Quarry
Meet and sign-in at 8:30 at Braen Franklin Quarry,
280 Cork Hill Road, Franklin, NJ 07416
Orientation at 8:45.
All PPE required. No minors.
****RSVP by April 11th, members only****
Members join or renew.

Meeting: Saturday, April 18, 2026
General Membership Meeting
1:30–3:00 p.m. Open to members and the public
Franklin Mineral Museum, Franklin, NJ

Speaker
Ryan Klockner
"The Importance of Cataloging Minerals in Private and Shared Databases." (1 hour)
As the creator of Geology365.com, Ryan explores why cataloging a mineral collection is more than just recordkeeping—it's preservation of history, value, and knowledge. We'll look at how collectors documented specimens in the past, examine real examples where provenance and written history dramatically increased a specimen's significance, and discuss the risks of relying on memory alone.

The talk will then transition into practicable, modern techniques for cataloging, including a live walkthrough of how collectors can efficiently organize, track, and preserve their collections using Geology365. Whether your collection is small or museum-scale, this session will show how proper documentation turns "just rocks" into a lasting legacy.

Speaker / Demonstration and Training
Dr. Steve Kuitems
"Identifying Willemite, typical versus atypical from Franklin and Sterling Hill."
Hands-on training. (45 minutes)

The Picking Table

Update on *The Picking Table* 2025
2025 Members: The belated 2025 *The Picking Table* should have arrived at your listed mailing address by the second week of March. If you did not receive it, please contact us and we will follow up promptly. Contact pickingtable@foms-nj.us

Update on *The Picking Table* 2026
2026 Members: Expect two volumes of *The Picking Table*. We are working on them now. There will be a summer issue and a fall issue.



View

FOMS Contacts

Contact us at any time by email:
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