



CRYSTALS AND CABS

Newsletter of the Capital Mineral Club Concord, New Hampshire

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October 2011

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Editors Note:

The deadline to get info to me for publication will be the 3rd Saturday of every month

- My e-mail address:
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- CMC Website:
www.capitalmineralclub.org
- Website designed and maintained by:
Robin Edgewood-Reece &
Steffen Hermanns
- If submitting material to the newsletter the editor requests that it be sent in Microsoft Word format. This will help in getting the newsletter together.

The Capital Mineral Club membership meeting will be on Saturday, October 1st at 2:00 PM at the Salvation Army Building on Clinton Street in Concord, NH

This months speaker is Kevin Downey will be giving a presentation on China. This presentation will cover Kevin's Adventures in China. Mineral of the month will be Chinese minerals.

A Festival report will be presented.

Please Note that a special Club Meeting will be held Saturday October 15th at 2:00pm, Kristen Camp (the Scholarship recipient) will be giving her presentation on White Mountain Minerals.

This months refreshments will be provided by Sarah Sniffen.

Also thanks to Edna Whitmore for bringing refreshments to the September Meeting.

The Salvation Army building is located at the corner of Fruit Street and Clinton Street in Concord, NH, it is about a mile back into Concord from the Audubon down Clinton Street.

**Welcome new club members:
Angela Provost of Concord NH**

Mineral Clubs - Meeting Dates

Saco Valley Gem and Mineral Club: 3rd Thursday of each month at the Tin Mt. Conservation Center, Albany, NH – 7:00 PM

www.sacovalleygmc.com

Keene: 1st Saturday of each month at Keene State College, Science Bldg. Room SCIC 126, Keene, NH – 7:00 PM

keenemineralclub.50webs.com

Nashua: The Nashua Club is in a period of suspension of many of its traditional activities, but a core group of members plans to continue with some field trips and group participation at the Gilsum Rock Swap.

North Shore (MA): 3rd Friday of each month, St. Paul Episcopal Church, Washington St., Peabody, MA – 7:30 PM

Boston Mineral Club: 1st Tuesday of each month, Harvard University Geological Lecture Hall, 24 Oxford St., Cambridge, MA – 7:30 PM www.bostonmineralclub.org

Southeastern NH Mineral Club: 2nd Wednesday of each month, St John's Methodist Church, 28 Cataract Ave., Dover, NH – 7:00 PM senhmineralclub.org

Presidential Gem and Mineral Society: 2nd Friday of month at 7:00 P.M. North Country Education Services Center, 300 Gorham Hill; Gorham, NH



These are the minutes of the September 3rd, 2011 meeting of the Capital Mineral Club. The meeting was held at the Salvation Army Building on Clinton Street in Concord, New Hampshire. Meeting called to order at 2:04 pm by president Charles Forsberg, there were 27 members and one guest present.

Intro by Charles Forsberg on the Salvation Army and our decision to move the meetings to this venue. Also a few words on the passing of John McCrory some members shared their thoughts.

Meeting Minutes: motion made to accept made by Martin Kippley, seconded by Martha Martel, passed membership.

Treasures Report: Don Dallaire read the treasurers report a motion was made by Bill Adams, seconded by Carlos Gristanin, passed the membership, show report next month

Show Chair People: Charles Forsberg provided a presidents overview of the show. Silent Auction Winner Sharon Walsh. Gordon Jackson will give show report next meeting. Concord Youth Hockey helped with the setup this year a thanks go out to them with a donation of \$100.00 towards their hockey league. Send thank you card.

Field Trips: Toveco Field Trip Winners, Mitchell Golas \$100.00, John Walsh \$50, Ellen Oberkotter \$25.00, Dana Jewell \$15.00, Larry Welker \$10.00. Alden NY September 9-11 with Bill Brown will meet after club meeting on details. Future Field trips opportunities, Toveco trip some people worn inappropriate attire; make sure that appropriate attire be worn. Sterling hill mine was brought up by Martha Martel, Martin Kippley brought up remembrances of that trip in the past.

Scholarship Committee: recommends \$1000.00 to Kristen Kamp to complete her research on NH Geology and a \$556.00 grant to Abigail L Morris from UNH to go to the Peg Camp in Maine

Old Business: Club Filing Cabinet, Gordon made a motion, Don Dallaire seconded that we donate it to the micromounters. Passed by the membership.

New Business: A suggestion has been made by Charles Forsberg that we send Jim Tovey a \$25.00 fuel card for his allowing the club to go to his mine Martha Martel made the motion, Norman Miner seconded after discussion the amount was upped to \$50.00. Passed by the membership.

Robert Whitmore stated that a new mineral species has been located at Palermo Mines and has been named Faulsterite.

Door Prizes: Donated by Pat Barker; Grab bags were won by several club members.

Robert Whitmore gave his presentation on Pegmatite's.

Motion made to adjourn by Bill Adams, Seconded by Steffen Hermanns, Passed the membership. Meeting Adjorned at 4:20pm

Respectfully submitted
Steffen Hermanns
Secretary

Capital Mineral Club
Concord, New Hampshire

ALDEN, NEW YORK "SPRING CREEK FOSSIL LOCATION"

Sept. 9-11, 2011

Talk about eager! All the Capital Mineral and Gem Club members, who were going on this trip, arrived early at the staging area on I-89. Only 3 cars made up the caravan. Some ten people had dropped out, perhaps because of the dreary weather forecast that happily didn't materialize).

Bill Brown was our very able trip leader. We were constantly impressed by his attention to the details that made the trip seamless and fun. He had called ahead to check on the motel, the weather, and the site itself.

New members on the trip were Kerry and Jim Reynolds and Martha and Brian Martel. Old timers were Pam and Gordon Jackson, and Bill Brown, and old, old-timer, Pat Barker.

Route 9 in Vermont and Route 90 in Massachusetts and New York ran through hurricane-ravished areas. It was especially sad to see grey coated cornfields and homes with all the contents outside drying off. The Mohawk River area (including Herkimer) was especially hard hit.

For lunch we stopped at a highway rest area. To our surprise it was closed because of the storms, except for "Roy Rogers" that was offering a very limited menu.

We reached our motel, an EconoLodge in Corfu, N.Y. at 5:00 p.m. In 15 minutes we had unloaded our non-collecting things and had taken off for Spring Creek in Alden. We had about a 15-minute hike from the car park. On the way Bill pointed to a smooth bark-free log spanning the creek. "We will be crossing here," he said with a straight face. For several horrified seconds, I believed him! Happily we carried on a little way further until we reached a very impressive cliff of layered dark slate. This is the Ledyard Shale in the Ludlowville Formation.

For two hours the boys dug out the loose material at the base of the cliffs. Bill told us that the best collecting would be here at the bottom of the cliffs. The ladies collected in the shoveled debris, and with glee soon were finding fossil Brachiopods! In better light we could see hints of pyritization (Some references say the golden metal is marcasite).

At dark we abandoned the search, very anxious to return, first thing the next morning.

At 6:00 a.m. we all met in the motel dining area for a rather sketchy but adequate free breakfast. We purchased Subway sandwiches to keep our strength up during the day.

By 8:00 we were back at Spring Creek. I soon found that I was not powerful enough to be able to chisel into the critical 15" to 18" zone, but I found some shell fossils in the shale on the floor that was easy to pry up. My colleagues tossed me several specimens, which were much appreciated.

The Martels worked as a team with Brian chiseling and digging while Martha was running a sieving operation. Soon they had filled an egg crate with tiny brachs, and a pail of bigger fossils. The Reynolds, Jacksons, and Bill worked diligently and were rewarded with many clay-covered fossils. Some fossils found here are Devonian: gastropods, cephalopods, pelecypods, brachiopods, and plant fossils. It will be interesting to see how many were found that day.

Of added interest were layers in the cliffs dotted occasionally with boulders (actually mud-balls) marking flash floods. These concretions are septarian nodules containing white and pink calcite, or even more attractive sparkling black crystallized calcite. The boys cracked open several and the ladies appropriated them for garden rocks. Needless to say, we had heavy loads on the hike back to the cars.

After much needed showers, we gathered at a nearby restaurant situated on a landmark waterfall. On the way back to the motel we were treated to a half hour of fireworks, launched from a local amusement park. We were all pretty tired after all the manual labor, and wasted no time getting to bed.

Next morning we had breakfast at the Denny's just across the street from the motel; an excellent meal. Bill gave us some hints on how to clean our finds. The instructions to soak them for a week were not popular advice, as I wanted to see my treasures right off!

We said our goodbyes as some of the group was going to stop in Herkimer to visit one of the "Diamond" locations. Our trip home was uneventful. Mileage to the Jackson's was 473 miles, and I had some 40 miles more to go.

A special thanks to Pam and Gordon for their transportation and very pleasant company. Many thanks to Bill for finding the excellent and reasonable motel and for arranging this extraordinarily successful field trip!

Pat Barker

References:

Author: William A. Tervo
 Rock Hounds Guide to NY State
 An Explosion-Banner Book NY 1967

382. *Alden Spring Creek*. Off Route 20, north on Route 1 239. Take first road to right after crossing Spring Creek; this Department of Works road will lead to fenced-in plant. Leave car on grass off road. Creek is on right. Follow it about a thousand feet, pass the first shale bank on the right. Around the bend will be a bank twenty to thirty feet high. This weathered shale is easy to climb and dig into. Fossils, concretions, small crystals, seventy plants, fish teeth, crustaceans, sponges, gastropods, cephalopods, pelecypods, brachiopods. Dig anywhere to find a fossil. Farther upstream are more banks. The problem is to find the Ledyard seam. Concretions other than marcasite can be found. Also trilobites. Don't go in after or during a rain; everything will look black.

Author: David E. Jensen
 Minerals of NY State 1978



Steffen Hermanns
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Keep on **ROCKIN'** in the Free World

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WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.CAPITALMINERALCLUB.ORG

Capital Mineral Club Meetings & Events

OCTOBER 1, 2011

Club Meeting: **2:00PM**

Speaker: Kevin Downey China

Refreshments: Sarah Sniffen

OCTOBER 15, 2011

Special Meeting: **2:00PM**

Speaker: Kristen Camp White Mountain Minerals

Refreshments: TBD

NOVEMBER 5, 2011

Club Meeting: **2:00PM**

Speaker: Woodrow Thompson

Refreshments: TBD

DECEMBER 3, 2011

Holiday Party: **12:00PM - 4:00PM**

JANUARY 7, 2012

Club Meeting: **2:00PM**

Speaker: TBD

Refreshments: TBD

FEBRUARY 4, 2012

Club Meeting: **2:00PM**

Speaker: TBD

Refreshments

Gem & Mineral Shows

October 7-8 2011 — WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS: Business-to-business gem trade show; **Gem & Lapidary Wholesalers Inc.**; Eastern States Exposition, Young Bldg., 1305 Memorial Ave. Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-3; contact G&LW, P.O. Box 98, Flora, MS 39071-0098, (601) 879-8832; e-mail: info@glshows.com; Web site: glshows.com

October 15-16 2011 — BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT: 39th annual show; **Bristol Gem & Mineral Club**; Beals Community Center, 240 Stafford Ave.; Sat. 9:30-5, Sun. 10-4; adults \$5, seniors \$4, children under 12 free; contact David Korzendorfer, 208 Westledge Rd., West Simsbury, CT 06092, (860) 651-9980; e-mail: bristolgem@hotmail.com; Web site: www.bristolgem.org

October 22-23 2011 — WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND: Show, "Dinosaurs & Crystals"; **Rhode Island Mineral Hunters**; Community College of Rhode Island - Knight Campus, Rte. 113, 400 East Ave.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$6, seniors \$5, children under 10 years free; contact Tony Cesana, 85 St. Paul St., North Smithfield, RI 02896, (401) 766-9076; e-mail: a_cesana@cox.net; Web site: www.rimh.us

August 25-26 2012 — CONCORD, NH: 49th Annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Festival—Capital Mineral Club, Everett Arena, Concord, NH, Sat 9am to 5pm, Sun 10am to 4pm, www.capitalmineralclub.org, steffenh@capitalmineralclub.org