



CRYSTALS AND CABS

Newsletter of the Capital Mineral Club
Concord, New Hampshire

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Capital Mineral Club News

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The CMC will meet Saturday, September 8th at 7:30 PM at the Salvation Army Building on Clinton Street in Concord, NH.

Our speaker for September is Peter Henry of Market Street Jewelers in Portsmouth NH, he will present a talk about the International Gem Trade. Thanks to Bill Brown for May's meeting refreshments. Refreshments for the September meeting will be provided by Mineral of the month will be Gemstones of the World. Bring what you have for display.

Editors Note:

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

... My e-mail address: steffenh@comcast.net

... 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.

Letter from the Salvation Army Regarding Our Meetings

Dear Scott,

I would like a list of days when your club meets at the Salvation Army during the year starting in September. I want to make sure you are on the calendar and there are no conflicts in schedule. I also wanted to prepare you that we will be doing construction in our building, but we are not sure when it will start. We will do our best to accommodate your needs. I want to inform you that our building and gym are not available in the month of December. We need this space to take care of our Christmas assistance program. I know you have a wonderful Christmas party here every year. What about having it in November? Please let me know if you decide to chose another date, so I can clear it in the schedule.

I am the new commanding officer now. (I have been here one year) Pleas direct any correspondence to me or my wife Captain Kimberly Belanger.

Thank you for your time. Sincerely Captain Shaun Belanger

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

Keene: 1st Saturday of each month at Keene State College, Bldg. 18, Keene, NH – 7:00 PM

Nashua: Last Wednesday of each month at the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Nashua, 47 Grand Ave., Nashua, NH – 7:00 PM

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

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



These are the minutes of the May 12th, 2007 meeting of the Capital Mineral Club. The meeting was held in the all purpose room of the Salvation Army Building on Clinton Street in Concord, New Hampshire. The meeting called to order at 7:30pm with 13 members present and one guest Brenda Higgins.

Due to the lack of a quorum the business meeting was tabled until the September meeting. The Secretaries reports and Treasurers reports will be presented at the September meeting.

Correspondence: none was received

Presentation: There was some miscommunication that led to our guest speaker Peter Henry not showing up, however he will be doing his presentation at the September meeting.

Nominating committee: The nominating committee has recommended the following:

Bill Brown - Auditor
Charles Forsberg - Vice President
Steffen Hermanns - Secretary
Gordon Graham - President
Terry Crowell - Director

Field Trip Committee: Discussion of a field trip to Eden Mills at the end of August was discussed and the final date would be posted on the web site as more information becomes available. The club needs a field trip committee chairman

Old Business: The votes for the Scholarship proposals were counted and the Club has decided to go in favor of the expanded proposal.

New Business: Steffen brought up that Bob Whitmore was looking into the details of having the meetings at the Audubon Society Building in Concord, the club will be voting on change of location at the September meeting. The Board of Directors recommends making this move. Our current cost for the Salvation army building is \$50.00 per month and the Audubon will charge \$75.00. It is a much nicer and roomy meeting place that can support all the club's needs.

John Craven of the Southeastern NH Club is selling his collection, contact Bill Brown for more information.

Door Prizes: Blue Apatite crystal from Slyudyanka Lake, Baikal Siberia, donated by Frank Higgins
Analcine-Aegirine-Natrolite Mont St. Hilaire, Quebec

Meeting was adjourned and we enjoyed great food from Bill Brown.

respectfully submitted.
Steffen Hermanns
Acting Secretary

Capital Mineral Club
Concord, New Hampshire

Gilsum, NH Little Town with Heart

Perhaps no other subject or geographic area has been praised or written about more in our show reports than Gilsum, New Hampshire. This year, once again, Gilsum distinguished itself with another record rock and mineral show. Saturday, June 23rd, 2007 a new record first day was set for the Gilsum Rock and Mineral Swap. The village of 780 residents hosted 6,000 visitors on the grounds surrounding Gilsum School. This is a "best estimate" from show chair Rob Mitchell. Rob and his committee gather figures based on gate donations from parking and volunteers who monitor traffic flow. The previous record first day attendance was set in 2004 during the 40th anniversary celebration of the show with 5,000 collectors and families attending opening day.

This was our seventh year as dealers. It was also a "homecoming" as we marked our very first visit to Gilsum way back in June of 1997, ten years! Returning to Gilsum is now equivalent to a vacation, business trip, and annual reunion with friends and "family." Since the past 43rd show and a very positive two-day experience for us, I reflected on just what makes Gilsum repeat success year after year. Probably there are no pat answers. My feeling is that it is in the "heart" of people, who organize set-up, operate and volunteer their time for those two important days.

Gilsum is a town covering 16.7 square miles in the beautiful Ashuelot River valley. The town once was a center for mining activity that produced feldspar, mica and high quality beryl, tourmaline and quartz. Over 60 old mine locations in surrounding areas are now quiet testimony to times past.

Aside from the town store, church, library, post office and automotive garage, the town still maintains a humble and quiet assortment of cottage businesses such as a pizza parlor, a sports graphics shop. World famous W.S. Badger Company which makes lip balms, potions and other natural products fills out the town business listings.

Local demography based on the last census indicates a population of 780 with approximately 301 households. In those households there are 220 families 24.6 percent of which have children under the age of 18 years old. (Census figures) That computes to about 54 families with children.

My knowledge of the Gilsum Recreation Committee, even after all these years was sketchy. I contacted committee chairman, Rob Mitchell. He was kind enough to give his usual same day reply.

Rob stated that six non-profit community organizations run concessions. They contribute 10% of their profits to the Recreation Committee to use for the recreation programs. The committee is made up of representatives from fifteen town organizations. Each has a vote as to how the event is run and how the money is spent.

He says, "Volunteers help with parking, the information booth, setup and tear down. In past years Keene Sentinel newspaper of the nearest large town usually offered sponsorship and advertising for the show.

Rob estimates that between all the events, Gilsum Rock Swap and Mineral Show engages time of approximately 60 people. Townspeople donating homemade beans, coleslaw and pies for the Saturday night dinner plus other volunteer activities swell the ranks of the active to about 100.

All told, by all estimates, about 12.82% of Gilsum's population offer time, goods and/or talent to making Gilsum one continuous success story. This year show attendance was between 6,000 to 8,000 visitors comprised of collectors and families. Rob attributes success of the annual show to volunteers and small town hospitality. He states that "the community pulls together to pull out the red carpet."

Gilsum, New Hampshire is proof of a little town that could that did, and still does prove itself year after year for 43 years. Gilsum is probably the finest open air small town rock and mineral swap/show in the northeast, perhaps the whole country.

This beautiful little New Hampshire town sets a splendid example, sets the bar for rock and mineral shows every where. Gilsum is a tribute to efforts by small and dedicated groups of individuals to make a difference in their community or club.

June 2008 is just months away. Set your travel plans up to include a visit to the Gilsum Rock Swap and Mineral Show June 28-29, 2008. Linda and I will be there as dealers, doing our part to make the show a success.

For any prospective dealers out there Rob says, "We usually have a few spaces open each year for new dealers." You can contact him, rmitchell60@gmail.com or call (603) 357-9636.

Your first visit to Gilsum will convince you, the town has heart.

Article by member Don Kauffman member from Reading, PA



Steffen Hermanns

Editor

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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

SEPTEMBER 8, 2007

Club Meeting: **7:30PM**
Speaker: Peter Henry of Market Street Jewelers in
Portsmouth, International Gem Trade
Refreshments: Steffen Hermanns

SEPTEMBER 29 - 30 2007

Capital Mineral Club's Annual Gem and Mineral
Festival at the Everett Arena in Concord NH

OCTOBER 13, 2007

Board of Directors Meeting: **6:00PM**
Club Meeting: **7:30PM**
Speaker: Chris Wong
Refreshments: TBA

NOVEMBER 10, 2007

Club Meeting: **7:30PM**
Speaker: Scholarship Grant Recipients
Refreshments: TBA

Gem & Mineral Shows

Sept. 8-9, North Adams, MA - Northern Berkshire Mineral Club. Annual Gem and Mineral Show. VFW Hall, Rte. 2. 8th, 10-6; 9th, 10-5. Cindy Lee Hancock, 413-664-4115.

Sept. 7-8, Cologne, NJ - Cape Atlantic Rock Hounds. 40th Annual Rock, Gem, & Jewelry Show. Dave Grace, 609-594-3270, eli_grace85@yahoo.com.

Sept. 7-9, Marlborough, MA - Innovative Beads Expo. Embassy Suites Hotel, 123 Boston Post Rd. West. 7th-8th, 10-6; 9th, 10-4. Renu Sawhney, 845-352-9735, info@innovativebeadsexpo.com.

Sept. 8-9, New Milford, CT - Danbury Mineralogical Society. 57th Annual Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show. New Milford High School, Danbury Rd. 8th, 10-5:30; 9th, 10-5. Pat Hackett, prhackett@charter.net.

Sept. 29-30, Franklin, NJ - Franklin Mineral Museum. Franklin Mineral, Gem, and Jewelry Show. Washington Ave. 29th, 7:30-6; 30th, 9-5. Lee Lowell, 973-827-6671,

September 29-30, Concord, NH—44th Annual Gem and Mineral Festival presented by the Capital Mineral Club, Sat. 9 – 5, Sun., 10 – 4, Everett Arena, Concord, NH, Adults – \$4.00, 12 and under free. **This is a new Venue Location**

Oct. 12-13, West Springfield, MA - Gem & Lapidary Wholesalers, Inc. Eastern States Exposition, Young Bldg., 1305 Memorial Ave. 12th, 10-6; 13th, 10-3. 601-879-8832, fax 601-879-3282, info@glwshows.com, www.glwshows.com.