



CRYSTALS AND CABS

Newsletter of the Capital Mineral Club

NH Sno-Shakers Clubhouse

70 Clough Pond Rd. Canterbury, NH.

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April 2023

Volume 23 Issue 3

Capital Mineral Club News

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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: steffenh@comcast.net
- CMC Website: www.capitalmineralclub.org
- Website designed and maintained by: Peter Cram & 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 meeting is **Saturday April 8, 2023** at the **Sno-Shaker's** building in **Canterbury, NH.**

Plan is to start arriving around 12:00 and meeting to start at 1:00.

The speaker for this month is **Don Dallaire** who will be talking Tucson and the many Mineral shows during late January to mid February (see sheet 5).

Thank you to those who supplied refreshments at the last meeting.

New Members:

Thomas Ward, Concord NH	Wayne Legros, Manchester NH
Claire Willscher, Bedford NH	Adam & Garrett Haggerty, Bedford NH
Sarah, Patrick, Maverick & Fiona Brennan, Manchester NH	
Susan Lichty, Lempster NH	Eric Laroche, Pittsfield NH
Suzanne Parker, Jefferson NH	Dale & Jeff Milne, New London NH
Deb Napsey, Peterborough NH	Beth Darling, Amherst NH

**2023 Club Dues are due, please send your membership dues to:
Steffen Hermanns, 7133 Oak Hill Road, Loudon, NH 03307
Make check payable to Capital Mineral Club. Dues are \$10.00 per member.**

Mineral Clubs - Meeting Dates

Saco Valley Gem and Mineral Club: 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Tin Mt. Conservation Center, Albany, NH – 7:00 PM
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/398593197423304>

KMC: (in person and Zoom) 1st Saturday of each month at Winchester, NH at the ELM Community Center. 79 NH Rt.119 . It's the big white house set far back from road on east side of road. 7PM the first Sat. of the month. www.keeneminerclub.50webs.com/

North Shore (MA): 3rd Friday of each month, Hamilton Wenham Community House, 284 Bay Rd, South Hamilton, MA – 7:45 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 each month at 6:30 PM at the Great North Woods Welcome Center, 25 Park Street, Lancaster, NH.

March meeting minutes.



The March meeting of the Capital Mineral Club was held on March 11th, 2023 at the Sho-Shakers Club House in Canterbury, NH.

The meeting was called to order at 12:59 PM with 33 members present.

A presentation was given to the membership by Martin Kippley on "Radioactivity and Radioactive Minerals".

The business meeting was called to order at 2:37 PM with 33 members present.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

MOTION TO: Accept the minutes as printed in the newsletter.

By: Martin Kippley **SECONDED:** Heidi Chaney

DISPOSITION: Voted on and carried by membership 33 in favor – 0 against.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

MOTION TO: Accept the treasurers report as read by Crystal Czaja.

By: Martin Kippley **SECONDED:** Dave Ogan

DISPOSITION: Voted on and carried by membership 33 in favor – 0 against.

BUDGET REVIEW:

MOTION TO: Accept the budget review as read by Crystal Czaja.

By: Don Dallaire **SECONDED:** John Herndon

DISPOSITION: Voted on and carried by membership 33 in favor – 0 against.

OLD BUSINESS:

Officer Elections – We are still in need of a Nominating Committee. If anyone is interested, please contact Steffen Hermanns.

We do have the two director vacancies filled. Gordon Jackson and Sarah Medeiros have volunteered to run for those positions. Steffen has agreed to run for Vice President and will be happy to assist the new President. He will send out a letter to the membership with the ballot information and descriptions of the positions that need filled.

Scholarship Committee – Don Dallaire, Crystal Czaja, and Gordon Jackson will coordinate a meeting date and bring any nominees to the membership at a later date.

NEW BUSINESS:

Field Trips – Heidi Chaney has volunteered to be our Field Trip Coordinator. She will be sending an email out to the membership for suggestions and sign ups. Steffen will send her any mine contact information and insurance paperwork. The following suggestions were brought up: Maine Mineral Museum trip, Diamond Mountain Mining, Tripp mine weekend trip in conjunction with the Gilsum Rock Swap, Ruggles and Palermo weekend trip in the early fall.

Board Meeting & Show Committee Meeting – Steffen will try to schedule a combination meeting for these in the coming weeks.

New England Mineral Conference – The format for the conference at Sunday River has been changed. Friday will now be short topic talks in the afternoon with the banquet and awards in the evening. Childrens' day will be on Saturday. The conference will be held the weekend after Mother's Day.

Rochester Mineral Show – The show will be virtual again this year from Rochester, NY.

Trailer – The trailer is in Steffen Hermanns yard and he will be reinforcing it so it can stand up to the snow and weather. Work on the trailer will begin again after the snow has receded and the weather has warmed up some.

Children's Program – The Future Rockhounds of America met before the regular membership meeting with 7 attendants. They studied the second part of their fossil badges

MOTION TO ADJOURN

DISPOSITION: Meeting ended at 3:16 PM

Slate of officers for election:

President: Open, Still need someone.

Vice President: Steffen Hermanns

Treasurer: Crystal Czaja

Director: Sarah Mederois

Director: Gordon Jackson

Secretary: Angela Pratt

**Ages 9-15****Future Rockhounds of America****April 8th, 11am-12pm, Sno-Shakers Clubhouse**

Agenda: Mineral Special Effects. We will learn about a variety of mineral properties including chatoyancy, asterism, iridescence, play-of-color, double refraction, color change and more! This will be a two-part workshop and will continue at the May 13th meeting.

Last month: If you have work completed from the collecting and curating badge, (such as ten specimens curated or your catalog) please bring that in to obtain credit.

Questions: FRACapMin@gmail.com

The 8th Annual NEW ENGLAND
**MINERAL
CONFERENCE
2023**
**MAY 19-21
NEWRY, MAINE**

*Grand Summit Resort
Hotel & Conference
Center at the Sunday
River Resort*

Lectures, Presentations,
Displays, Exhibits, Banquet,
Dealers, Hospitality Suite,
Auctions, Field Trips, Technical
Session, and Museum Visit
nemineal.org

**For conference schedule, registration, lodging and related costs
go to: www.nemineal.org/annual_conference/**

Tucson - Minerals, Museums, Mines, and More!



The talk for the April meeting will be on Tucson and the many mineral shows during late January to mid February.

Besides the mineral shows there are many other activities to enjoy.

An overview of museums that you can visit that cover minerals, wildlife, plant life, and many other topics will be presented.

In addition there are mines to visit with collecting opportunities as well as experiencing the desert, a very different environment.

Come to the meeting to get a overview of the Tucson experience in February. You will want to go in 2024



**Wulfenite
Glove Mine
Santa Cruz County
Arizona**

A Call to Action by Jeff Morrison



Rabble getting down to their level. Alice Wack photo

Over the last few months, the Maine Mineral & Gem Museum has had a couple of community days where Maine citizens are welcome to visit for free. In November the Oxford County Gem & Mineral Club supplied volunteers to be docents for a day to help with the attendees that came. In March the Maine Mineralogical & Geological Society did the same thing. The Museum supplied a breakfast before the event for some socializing. We then did a short training to familiarize ourselves with the Museum lay out and go over safety procedures.



Looking through the microscope with Max. Alice Wack photo

Everyone chose a spot where they felt most comfortable. One of the things that seems to hinder prospective volunteers is their apprehension in their depth of knowledge. There is nothing difficult here; most visitors are looking for a simple explanation to what they are seeing, as many know very little about mineral. A small amount of guidance

goes a long way in heightening their view into our world. The Museum has done all the hard work by having beautiful and informative displays available. Almost everyone coming through is thrilled, and many comment that this is much more than they imagined. To some visitors, the breadth of the displays is overwhelming, and most are not aware what Maine has to offer in types of minerals, let alone the expansive meteorite gallery with the ability to hold the moon and Mars. What I find is that every day that I volunteer, I learn something new; you can, as well. Many times, it may be from an observant 10-year-old. Interesting people associated with the mineral world are likely to stop by. Recently one of the visitors commented "the museum is wonderful, but the volunteers are what make it fun". To me the fun is helping to educate the general public about my passion.

You don't have to wait for a special event to volunteer at a museum, they can use multiple volunteers almost every day. You do need to contact them in advance to be a volunteer. Most museums have a variety of ways to volunteer beyond being a docent and working directly with the public. In the colder months this is a great way to get your mineral fix. Beyond volunteering at a museum, there are numerous opportunities to volunteer in the mineral community. Most any mineral club has plenty of roles to fill, especially when the local club shows is taking place. Schools are wanting people to come in and talk about geology to the classroom. The New England Mineral Association hosts several events every year and is always looking for volunteers to help. This could be working in the youth area, parking cars or several other positions depending on the event. Many could also help any of these mineral organizations with a financial donation to help the cause.



While some of you are probably thinking that you don't have time, ask yourself how many times someone has assisted you from the mineral community? Is now the time to start to pay it forward? Geology knowledge is slowly dying in today's society. Much of the problem, is geology in many schools is an afterthought and many of the youth have little-to-no awareness of what minerals are. In many cases it has been replaced in the school systems with the broader topic of 'environmental science'. In other cases, it is being taught by teachers that don't even have an education in geology, sometimes



Sweet Dreams are made of this. Alice Wack photo

teaching their students about the metaphysical aspects of a mineral instead of their scientific properties and use. The reality of the situation is that geology can be extremely exciting and is more relevant today than at almost any time in our history. Geology is in the forefront of the technological advances, especially in our race to replace fossil fuels. In the near future mining will be done in space. While geology has a bright future, our youth are becoming ignorant about its importance.

If any of you know me, you will know I am passionate about our youth learning about minerals. They are the future and if you can get them excited and involved in the mineral community, you also have the opportunity to get their parents involved. Youth today are still fascinated in discovering new things; all we need to do is help. While a few of today's youth have a unique interest in minerals, the difficult part is to introduce the rest of them into this fascinating world. Do understand and accept they are not all going to fall in love with minerals, but without awareness almost none will. After the basic introduction to minerals and that first bit of excitement about the subject, the next thing is for them to be able to expand their knowledge. Mineral Clubs, for the most, part don't count unless you have a truly active youth program. Even though most mineral clubs have a mission statement that talks about education they fall far short of what they could be doing. Without a youth program, students are being forced into an adult environment, which is usually not youth friendly. Think back to when you were that age and if someone asked you if you wanted to go hang out with a bunch of old dinosaurs what your thoughts would have been. When you are 10 or 15, even 25 is a different generation with vastly different interests.

Volunteering is not only easier than you think; the rewards of engaging with new people are priceless. You have the ability to help introduce the world of minerals to someone, revolving around your hobby, your passion, or even your job. What could be easier? I believe you will find that mineral-related volunteering is a great activity and will expand your own mineral knowledge. As a member of the mineral world, it has become incumbent upon all of us to reach out and help introduce the world to the importance of minerals.



The author enjoying talking with visitors at the museum. Alice Wack photo



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

Email: pfcram@comcast.net

WE'RE ON THE WEB
 WWW.CAPITALMINERALCLUB.

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Capital Mineral Club Meetings & Events	Gem & Mineral Shows
<p>APRIL 8, 2023 Club Meeting: 12:00PM Refreshments: Speaker: Don Dallaire</p>	<p>April 15-16, 2023 37th Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show Brick South-Thompsons Point Portland, ME</p>
<p>MAY 13, 2023 Club Meeting: 12:00PM Refreshments: Speaker: TBD</p>	<p>May 5-6, 2023 North Shore Rock & Mineral Show Topsfield Fairgrounds 207 Boston Road Topsfield, MA</p>
<p>JUNE 10, 2023 Club Meeting: 12:00PM Refreshments: Speaker: TBD</p>	<p>May 19-21, 2023 New England Mineral Conference Sunday River Resort 97 Summit Road, Newery, ME</p>
<p>SEPTEMBER 9, 2023 Club Meeting: 12:00PM Refreshments: Speaker: TBD</p>	
<p>OCTOBER 14, 2023 Club Meeting: 12:00PM Refreshments: Speaker: TBD</p>	