

THE CAPITAL ROCKHOUNDER



Publication of the Capital District Mineral Club, Inc.
Chartered by the Education Department of the State of New York
P.O. Box 12814, Albany, New York 12212-2814

February 2010

February Meeting

The next meeting of the Capital District Mineral Club will be held at the New York State Museum on Madison Ave on February 4th, 2010. Please arrive between 7:00-7:15pm so that someone may let you in the normally locked after hours museum doors.

Board of Trustees Meeting

There will be a meeting of the board of trustees of the Capital District Mineral Club on January 30 at 1:00pm at the Alplaus fire house (just down from the Rexford fire house). Regular members can attend to suggest items of interest for the club, but are not allowed to vote. For more information, please contact Robert Hartig, at 518-842-5948 or at phartig@nycap.rr.com

Capital District Mineral Club

Thursday January 7, 2010 Minutes

by Curtis Breuer

Met at the New York State Museum at 7:00, thirty-three members were in attendance. Meeting was called to order at 7:30 by President Anne Woods. Bryan Harbor was a visitor at his first meeting after being a member for a year. Mike Hawkins announced the upcoming show and the need for volunteers to help. Bruce Murray introduced our video of the Tucson mineral show. A short break was taken and the raffle was announced. The raffle generated \$61.00. Secretary's Report was given by Curtis Breuer; Deb Hewson motioned to accept the minutes, Joe Van Camp seconded. Nominated Committee announced their nominations; Bill Cotrofeld for President, Deb Hewson for Vice President, Curtis Breuer for Secretary, and Bob Stitham for Treasurer. Bob Stitham motioned to close the ballot, Joe Van Camp seconded. Secretary casted one vote, resulting in the official election of the new officers. These new officers will take office at the close of this meeting. New business: Richard Hartnett announced that the owner of Batchellerville has changed businesses; however, we should still have access for more trips this summer. No old business. Bob Ballard announced that he is going to Denny's! The meeting was closed by President Anne Woods at 8:43pm. Bob Stitham gave the first, and Joe Van Camp gave the second.

Posters for the Show

If you took mineral show posters at the last meeting, please note that you must email or call Bruce Murray to give exact locations

as to where you put up the posters. Mike Hawkins wants this information. Just stating that you put them up in Troy is not good enough. Please provide Bruce with name of establishment and street names if possible. Also, Mike wishes to know the size of the poster that you put up in each place. Or if they welcomed a pile of them. Bruce Murray: rbruce@cisbec.net

Please don't take more posters than you plan to put out. Remember to always ask permission before putting up posters. Go online and give out our information on the community sections of the web to local news stations, newspapers, facebook, myspace, etc. Call your local papers and ask them to put us in for free. Mike should be providing us with more posters during the February meeting.

February Program

We are going to have a two-fold program:

First, we are going to watch a VHS tape: T-Rex "The Real World." Travel to the actual sites where five skeletons have been excavated since 1990. Scientists take you to the dusty prairie and into their laboratories as they uncover ancient bones and exciting secrets.

Secondly, we have some show business to take care of: we have some show display cases to fill. We have discovered that the club owns a large display cabinet. Please bring a few club field trip collected specimens (from this area) to the February meeting. In determining which specimens to use there will be two criteras to think of: 1) which specimens look best in the case with each other to someone walking by; and 2) trying to cover all field trips we went on. Also, we now have 4 display cases to use. We must determine which to use, maybe just the one big one, and what will fit on the table nicely. For the large display case we can use 25 - 30 specimens, hand size or smaller, but need to be at least 2" or will get lost in the big case. For the other cases, there are smaller sizes available, but please remember we have not yet determined which of the 4 cases we are deciding to use.

Rich Stein will be in charge of the display cases during the meeting. Please see him if you have any questions during the meeting. I will be assigning someone else control of them for during the show since Rich will be busy with his mineral meals.

Feb 2010 Show Helpers Needed

Helpers are still needed for February 20 and 21 from 10-5pm. If you are interested in volunteering your time to help the club co-sponsor this event for the NYS Museum, please e-mail us at schmanie@albanyrockclub.com or call Anne at 518-322-7932. If you don't know what to volunteer for, I can help you to decide. Also, if you can't devote an entire shift to us, we can discuss smaller shifts as well.

I have a tentative schedule set up. If anyone wants to volunteer for the show, I still have plenty of spaces to fill. We could always use more floaters...or people willing to take hour shifts to help out those on the concourse level. There was also talk of making the shifts in the concourse level shorter. So, never assume the schedule is full.

Mineral of the Month

Curtis Breuer has come up with the concept of Mineral of the Month (for our club). Each month, he will write up a little article in the newsletter about a mineral of his choice. You are asked as a club to bring in a specimen from your collection to show your fellow neighbors at the meeting (before the meeting and during the break). This will not be a part of the program.

Wulfenite $Pb(MoO_4)$

by Curtis Breuer

Named after Austrian mineralogists, Franz Xavier von Wulfen (1728-1805), Wulfenite is a lead mineral that typically forms thin, tabular crystals of red-orange, orange, and yellow color. This highly sought after mineral is formed in lead ores, as a secondary mineral in oxidized mineral zones. Noted and desired locations include the Red Cloud Mine, Arizona; Los Lamentos, Mexico; Tsumeb, Namibia; and Morocco. Common associations of Wulfenite are

Vanadinite, Mimetite, Pyromorphite, and Cerussite. For those who have collected this mineral, they know all too well how brittle this mineral is and how difficult it is to collect these specimens. Therefore, Wulfenite specimens are a highly prized part of any collection!

Collectors Corner

by Curtis Breuer

New to Collecting? No problem! Every serious collector was there at some point in their collecting history. This article is geared to you new or old collectors that want some tips and tricks on how to keep an organized and presentable collection. The most important part of any collection is the labels that go along with a specimen. If done correctly, labels will add value to your collection and be sure that you and anyone who looks at your specimen knows what they are looking at and where it was found. Information on labels should be written clearly and accurately giving data on the mineral, location, size, how it was acquired, price, and date collected. To further organize specimens, a catalogue of all minerals can be kept in order to quickly find a mineral or see if you have something from a given location. To catalogue specimens, many collectors give each sample its own unique identification number that is on the label, affixed to the specimen and listed in the catalogue. The identification number can be painted on the specimen with white paint and permanent marker, or glued on using waterproof glue. Identification numbers should be on the backside of a specimen and be clearly written. Cataloguing can be a long, tedious process; however, if done correctly, can bring organization and neatness to a collection. To get it all done, try to set goals of a certain number of specimens per day; as new specimens are added to your collection, catalogue them right away to be sure they are completed. Be sure to check out the next article in this mini-series to learn about storage of mineral specimens!

Mineral Show Volunteers

TABLE SET UP

FRIDAY NIGHT (4:30pm - ?)---Set Up Club Table: (3 people)

Anne Woods	Robert Stitham	Robert Hartig
Bruce Murray - lap	Rich Stein - min meal	

DEALER SET UP

Help Mike Hawkins with Dealers: (3-6 people)

Jim Palmer	Art Collins	Gerry Pratt
Anne Woods (later)	Robert Stitham (later)	

TICKET SALES

SATURDAY (8:30AM - 1:00PM)

Anne Woods	MAIN LEVEL - TICKETS
Max Fisher	MAIN LEVEL - TICKETS
Greg Shields	CONCOURSE LEVEL - TICKETS

TICKET SALES*SATURDAY (1:00PM – 5:15PM)*

Jo-anna Michalek	MAIN LEVEL – TICKETS
Curtis Breuer	MAIN LEVEL - TICKETS
Paul & Teresa Breuer	CONCOURSE LEVEL - TICKETS

SUNDAY (8:30AM – 1:00PM)

Catherine Chiachiarretta	MAIN LEVEL - TICKETS
Bill Chiachiarretta	MAIN LEVEL - TICKETS
Kim & Jake Spiak	CONCOURSE LEVEL - TICKETS

SUNDAY (1:00PM – 5:15PM)

Charlyn Murray	MAIN LEVEL - TICKETS
Max Fisher	MAIN LEVEL - TICKETS
Jo-anna Michalek	CONCOURSE LEVEL - TICKETS

CLUB TABLE*SATURDAY (9:30AM – 1:30PM)*

Fred Dobert	CLUB TABLE - MEMBERSHIP
Pam Hartig – Bob Hartig	CLUB TABLE - CASHIER
Deb Hewson	SAND BOX
Bill Cotrofeld	FLOATER

SATURDAY (1:30PM – 5:15PM)

Deb Hewson	CLUB TABLE - MEMBERSHIP
Charlyn Murray	CLUB TABLE - CASHIER
New guy + daughter	SAND BOX
Carolyn Reynard (2 hrs)	
Steve Kelland (2 hrs)	
Bill Cotrofeld	FLOATER

SUNDAY (9:30AM – 1:30PM)

	CLUB TABLE - MEMBERSHIP
	CLUB TABLE - CASHIER
Bob Hartig	SAND BOX
Robert Stitham	FLOATER

SUNDAY (1:30PM – 5:15PM)

Carol & Joe Van Camp	CLUB TABLE - MEMBERSHIP
Ray McKinney	CLUB TABLE - CASHIER
Kevin Finn	SAND BOX
Greg Taylor	FLOATER

HELP DEALERS LEAVE SUNDAY NIGHT (5:00PM - ?) (4-6 persons)*Tasks: getting empty carts for dealers from all over the museum, riding elevator*

Jim Palmer	
Robert Stitham	
Art Collins	Anne Woods

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Officers:

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All submissions to the newsletter must be in my hand before the 18th of any given month, or they will be used in the next subsequent newsletter.

The purpose of our club is:

- To promote and encourage the study of mineralogy and other applied sciences.
- To cooperate with educational and scientific institutions in order to bring about a better and more general understanding of earth sciences.
- To provide a program with suitable speakers for scheduled meetings.
- To sponsor, direct, and assist in the planning of excursions to mineral localities and other places of geological interest.
- To cooperate with organizations whose purposes are similar to those stated in the foregoing items.

The Capital Rockhounder and the Capital District Mineral Club are not responsible for the accuracy or authenticity of any information in the articles printed in this newsletter. Nor are the opinions here expressed necessarily those of the officers of the Capital District Mineral Club nor of the Newsletter Staff as a whole.