

# 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 2007*

## Next Meeting

Please come to the next meeting on February 1, 2007. The door to the museum (on Madison Ave., farthest from the red church) will be opened from 7:00-7:15pm (sometimes earlier, but hardly ever later). Please wait in front of the door for us to come let you in (make sure you can be seen from the inside of the lobby). Please sign in at the security desk when you enter. The meeting starts at 7:30pm. We look forward to meeting you. Feel free to bring a friend. Remember that the walk from the parking lot to the museum entrance can be quite the wind tunnel, so bring appropriate clothing to stay warm.

## February Program

Our program will be a program entitled "It's Wildacres, It's Wonderful and it's yours". This is from the Eastern Federation of Mineral and Lapidary Societies (EFMLS) and is about our regional organization and its sponsor of a two week long workshop each year (spring and fall) for its members (that's us and people somewhat like us) to attend a learning session in our hobby field. It gives us a chance to try out equipment that is too expensive for most to buy, and see if we like it or not. Also just to see some of the related areas that are embraced in our hobby. It is held in western North Carolina, which is about 900 miles from Albany.

## January Program Review

We watched a National Geographic Video on Lechaguna cave. It was really interesting.

## Dues are Past Due

There are still 47 people who have not renewed. If you are one of those people, that's why you didn't get this newsletter. Remember if you rather receive an electronic copy of your newsletter via E-mail, now would be a great time to tell the Membership Committee. The membership form can be downloaded off the website on the back of this newsletter.

## Field Trip Meeting

The official field trip meeting of the Capital District Mineral Club will be on Thursday February 15, 2007 at 7:00 pm at the residence of Anne Woods. 106 Stoney Creek Drive, Clifton Park, NY 12065, Call 518-322-7932 (after 9 pm) for directions. or Email me at: [schmanie@albanyrockclub.com](mailto:schmanie@albanyrockclub.com).

## New Officers Elected

President: Cheryl Halleran  
Vice President: Anne woods  
Treasurer: Robert Stitham  
Secretary: Helen Eckler

## Show Committee Update

Posters are available for distribution throughout the capital district. Please contact Mike Hawkins at 486-2011 or George Gearhardt at 355-0670 if you wish to obtain posters. Please let George know where you have distributed the posters. The Show Committee will have the opportunity to sign up for favorite activities and time slots on either or both days of the February 24th and 25th show dates at the February 1st meeting of the club. Or you may call George at the above number. Please bring really nice specimens for inclusion in the case for the show to the February 1st meeting. We will be choosing the best of the specimens (plus only one of each kind of mineral/fossil) brought in. Please make sure that it is either under 2-3" in height for the one case, or under 2x3" to fit in the other case. We make no guarantees that we will choose your mineral, that will be up to the discretion of those at the show putting the case together. Posters will also be available for those members who were not at the January meeting (or for those who were and need more).

## Board of Trustee's Meeting

The members of the Board of Trustee's met on Thursday January 25th at George Gearhardt's house.

## Sad News

“WATERVLIET - John (Iwan) Romanation, 83, the retired owner of Romanation Jewelers in Troy, died on Sunday, December 31, 2006, at Samaritan Hospital in Troy.” “He founded Romanation Jewelers in Troy in 1952, which he operated for 38 years before his retirement.” “He was a member and past president of the Capital District Mineral Club of Albany... Contributions may be made to St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, 2410 Fourth Ave., Watervliet, NY, 12189, in memory of John (Iwan) Romanation.” (Reference: The Troy Record 1/1/2007)

### Fossil Lectures at New York State Museum

Fossil lectures on Wednesday evenings at the museum at 7PM. Free, of course. Located in the Carole F. Huxley Theater.

February 7. Dr. Robert Feranec, Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology. NYSM. “Missing Links in the Fossil Record.”

February 14. Dr. John Flynn. Department of Paleontology. American Museum of Natural History. “Of Brains and Brawn - Evolution of the Carnivora”.

February 21. Dr. Jeremy Kirchman. Curator of Birds, NYSM. “The Genomic Fossil Record: Ancient DNA Fact, Fiction, and Frustration”.

February 28. Dr. David Strait. Anthropology Department. University at Albany. “Something to Chew on: Mastication, Diet, and its Relevance to Human Evolution”.

### Mineral and Fossil Ephemera

During the long, cold winter months, you may want to collect or organize ephemera (papers) related to your collections, such as old/historic labels, brochures on caves, collecting sites, or geological museums, as well as business cards from dealers.

This material tends to float around in boxes, desk drawers, and other places and it gets lost in the shuffle. A good way to store this material is in page protectors which can be obtained from office supply stores, pharmacies, and the big box stores.

Page protectors come in many sized openings. One type holds 20 business cards (back to back). Another holds two full sized 8 1/2” by 11” documents or pictures (again, back to back). There are those which are half page size and so on, but all fit in three-ring binders. This is a good way to organize and store materials related to your collections.

Brochures fit page protectors nicely if you put in a blank page in the full sized page protector; that way you can store four (4) to a page (2 each side). In my own collection, I keep brochures on caves, museums, collecting sites, and maps.

When I am at Howe Caverns, for example, I pick up caving brochures for caverns I’ve visited, like Mammoth Caves in Kentucky and Seneca Caverns in Ohio, as well as caves I might like to visit like Cumberland Caverns in Tennessee or Dixie Caverns in Virginia.

I also pick up brochures on commercially open collecting sites like Ruggles Mine in New Hampshire and Richardson’s Ranch in Oregon (agates). My brochure collection references mines, exhibits, museums, or dealer shops from such diverse places as: North Carolina, Alaska, Ohio, Missouri, Virginia, Vermont, Georgia, New York, Maine, Pennsylvania, Utah, and Massachusetts, as well as New Zealand, Ireland, and Canada.

Another bit of Ephemera includes postage stamps depicting minerals and fossils. Canada and the United States have issued many of these stamps and I keep them with my mineral and fossil collection.

People collect all manner of materials related to the hobby including geological texts, old topographical maps, old monographs and publications from the USGS or state geological surveys.

I save passes or admission tickets to shows and mines. You can also store pictures from your field trips with the aforementioned page protectors.

In short, there’s a lot of material to collect and organize if you are of a mind to do so. The winter and early spring is a good time to get started. Happy New Year!

*Richard Hartnett*

### Geology’s Influence on Geography

It’s no secret that geographical names have been influenced by geological finds, mining interests, and geological science in general. It may surprise you to know how much. For example, there is a Limestone, Maine and a Limestone, Tennessee. The states of Arkansas, Colorado, Minnesota, and North Carolina have towns named “Marble”.

This phenomenon of naming cities and towns after minerals or rocks is not just an American invention. Look on a world map and you will find a Jade, Germany and a Galena, Australia, Copper Canyon, Mexico and Jasper, Alberta, Canada.

Speaking of Jasper, the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Tennessee, and Texas have towns or cities of that name. Galena is the name of a town or city in the states of Idaho, Texas, Kansas, Maryland, Missouri, Alaska, and Illinois, and you can visit Agate, Colorado, Nebraska, or Oregon.

Beryl, Utah might be a good place to visit. How about stopping by Blue Diamond, Kentucky or Bauxite, Arkansas? Would collectors like to go to Calcite, Michigan or Boron, California? I think I'd like to stop at Gold, Pennsylvania or Opal, Wyoming and Opal, South Dakota. Topaz Lake, California here I come! I think I'll steer clear of Uranium City, Saskatchewan.

Care to go on a sparkling vacation to Diamond, Alaska, Louisiana, or Oregon? Diamond Point on Lake George is closer. What's it like in Schoorl, The Netherlands (I know, we spell Schorl with one "o")?

Cinnabar Mountain, Idaho would be nice. Speaking of Gneiss, there's even a Gneiss Point, Antarctica and a Gneiss Creek, Wyoming. Have you ever been to Mica, Chile or Mica, South Africa? How about Quartzite, Arizona?

The Sulphur Name gets around to places like Oklahoma, Nevada, Louisiana, Indiana, South Dakota, and the Yukon.

Good old common Quartz was not left out: Quartz Hill, Australia; Quartz Lake, Alaska; Quartz Peak, California. And before you take this whole piece for "Granite" - yes, there is a Granite, Maryland, Colorado, Oklahoma, and Oregon.

Reading this may have driven you to Gold Bar (British Columbia, Canada, or Washington State that is), unless you have developed a huge appetite, then it's off to Mt. Apatite in Maine.

By now you are probably turning green, so you'll blend right on the streets of Emerald, Australia. I just touched the surface of the places in the world which reflect our geological world -- Copper Butte, Washington; Copper Center, Alaska; Copper Cliff, Ontario; Silver Mine, Connecticut; Silver Mine, Ireland; Silver City, Idaho, Mississippi, California, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Colorado and on and on.

Undoubtedly you know more places that I omitted. Is there a town named Trilobite anywhere?

*Richard Hartnett*

## Rock Shows 2007

Feb. 8-11. Tucson, AZ. Show, "Tucson Gem and Mineral Show"; Tucson Gem & Mineral Society; Tucson Convention Center, 260 S. Church Ave.; Thu. 10-6, Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$7, children under 14 free with paying adult; Contact Tucson Gem & Mineral Society, P.O. Box 42588, Tucson, AZ 85733, (520) 322-5773; e-mail: tgms@tgms.org; website: Web site: www.tgms.org.

Feb. 9-11. Tucson, AZ. Show; J.O.G.S. International Exhibits;

Tucson Expo Center, 3750 E. Irvington Rd.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-6; free admission; Contact Vitaliy, 650 S. Hill St., Suite 612, Los Angeles, CA 90014, (877) GEM-SHOW; e-mail: info@lastcallshow.com; Web site: www.lastcallshow.com.

Feb. 17. Phoenix, AZ. 57th annual show, "Phoenix Gem & Mineral Show and Prospectors Day"; Maricopa Lapidary Society, Arizona Mining & Mineral Museum, Arizona Prospectors; Arizona Mining and Mineral Museum, 1502 W. Washington St.; Sat. 10-4; free admission; Contact Lorette Kennedy, 1502 W. Washington St.; Phoenix, AZ 85007, (602) 738-2552; e-mail: lkennedy11@aol.com; Web: www.mines.az.gov.

Feb. 24-25. Albany, NY. 14th annual show and sale; New York State Academy of Mineralogy, Capital District Mineral Club; 4th floor, New York State Museum, Empire State Plaza, Madison Ave.; Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-5; admission \$6; includes the New York in Bloom Flower Show; Contact Mike Hawkins, (518) 486-2011, (518) 473-7154; e-mail: mhawkins@mail.nysed.gov.

March 3-4. Newark (Stanton), DE. 44th annual show; Delaware Mineralogical Society; Delaware Technical & Community College, Churchmans Rd. (Rte. 58); Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; adults \$5, seniors \$4, juniors \$3, children under 12 free with adult; Contact Karissa Hendershot, (302) 762-7760, or Gene Hartstein, (302) 234-4488; e-mail: gene@fossilnut.com.

March 3-4. New York, NY. Spring show; New York Mineralogical Club; Holiday Inn-Midtown, 440 W. 57 St.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; adults \$6, students and seniors \$5, children free; Contact Excalibur Mineral Corp., 1000 N. Division St., Peekskill, NY 10566, (914) 739-1134; e-mail: info@excaliburmineral.com; Web site: www.excaliburmineral.com.

March 10-11. Clifton, NJ. Show; North Jersey Mineralogical Society; Pope John Paul II Elementary School, 775 Valley Rd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4, seniors \$3, children over 12 \$2; Contact Robert Horn, 411 Mansfield Village, Hackettstown, NJ 07840, (908) 813-0808; e-mail: Mineraldog@Comcast.net.

March 24-25. Hamburg, NY. "Agates: Nature's Stained Glass Window"; Buffalo Geological Society; Grange/Market Bldgs., Erie County Fairgrounds, 5600 McKinley Pkwy.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, children under 12 free; Contact Steve Birtz, 2230 Fix Rd., Grand Island, NY 14072, (716) 773-6386; e-mail: SBirtz@aol.com.

March 24-25. Old Westbury, NY. 35th annual show; Island Rock Hounds; Old Westbury High School, Post Rd. and Jericho Turnpike; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4.50, children under 12 free; Contact Nancy Colburn, P.O. Box 521, Bellmore, NY 11710, (516) 334-4398; e-mail: nileda55@yahoo.com.

April 14-15. Freeport, NY. 32nd annual show; Village of Freeport; Freeport Recreation Center, 130 E. Merrick Rd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Contact John Anderson, P.O. Box 551, N. Bellmore, NY 11710-0551, (516) 781-8410.

April 28-29. Franklin, NJ. 35th annual show and outdoor swap; New Jersey Earth Science Association, Franklin-Ogdensburg Mineralogical Society, Sterling Hill Mining Museum; Franklin School, Washington Ave.; Sat. 9-5:30, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, children under 14 free with adult; Contact Sterling Hill Mining Museum, (973) 209-7212.

Capital District Mineral Club  
P.O. Box 12814  
Albany, NY 12212-2814

Officers:

President	Paul Van Schaick	518-399-5810
Vice Pres	Anne Woods	518-322-7932
Secretary	Helen Eckler	518-943-3459
Treasurer	Robert Stitham	gumby59@surferz.net

Newletter Staff:

Anne Woods schmanie@albanyrockclub.com  
Don Kauffman  
George Gearhardt  
Robert Stitham

Website:

<http://www.albanyrockclub.com>

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.