

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

July 2008

Next Meeting

There will be no meeting for July or August. Have a great summer!

Banquet/Auction Review

About 50 members showed up for the June 2008 Banquet and Silent Auction held at the New York State Museum in Albany, NY.

Field Trips

(You must contact the field trip leader to attend these trips and they must answer you. You must arrive on time. If you are late and they are gone, you must go home.)

July 13 (Sunday). Lafarge Quarry, Ravena, NY. Ran Tamir, quarry manager, has graciously offered to blast the area to the east of the original blast, an area where a number of our members feel sure that crystalline veins promise good collecting. Because we will be into the warmer/hotter part of summer, the starting time will be a bit earlier than normal. Meeting Place: Family Dollar/ Dunkin Donuts parking lot, Route 9W, Ravena. Meeting Time: 8:30 AM. Equipment: Standard for Hard Rock Mining ((We have requested that after the blast, the rock be left as is to minimize crystal damage. Hence, big hammers and pry bars will be essential to move slabs and boulders)). Safety: Hard hats, Fluorescent Orange/Yellow Vest, Boots (preferably steel-toed), Safety glasses, Gloves. ALL ARE REQUIRED !!! (anyone without such items will not be allowed in). Food/Drink: Bring snack, and plenty of water. Facilities: Available only at office area, before quarry entry. Timing: As in the past, we will plan to leave the collecting area by 1:30, so that we can exit the quarry by 2:00 PM. If you are late,

do not attempt to enter the quarry on your own! Trip Leader: Rich Stein 355 - 4423; 330-1966cell (on collecting day only). Note: Ask for info regarding children provided when you call.

July 19 (Saturday). Panther Pond Field Trip. Meeting place: McDonalds, Tupper Lake. Limited parking at the site, so we will carpool from the McDonalds. Meeting Time: 11:00. Minerals to be found: Labradorite with schiller. Tools: Crack hammer, chisels, small pry bar to lift rocks, water to wet the rocks to see the schiller. Insect repellent. Since we will be so far north, we will look into other sites in the area depending on what the trip members want to do. Contact: Bob Ballad 377-8656 rballad@nycap.rr.com

July 26-27. Gouverneur, NY (Balmat area). Mineral Search. Call Gerry Pratt at 518-392-0453 to let him know how many are interested and secure a spot in a car pool. Field Trip members will drive 4 hours to a location in Gouverneur where they will search for minerals at road side locations and potentially a quarry site. Minerals to be had include quartz magnesium- and calcium-bearing silicates, especially diopside, tremolite, anthophyllite, and talc. Please bring bug spray, sunscreen, tools, boots etc. Campground nearby. Most participants will camp overnight Sat-Sun.

August 31 (Sunday). Curtis' Caving Adventure. This informal outing to Natural Stone Bridge and Caves has had a date change. It will no longer be Sunday July 13, 2008. The date is going to be on Sunday August 31. I hope that this date works better for more people so we can have a good turnout for the tour. Please note, we will not be doing any actual mineral collecting on this trip. We will be taking a guided tour (normally self-guided) through the caves and study the geology and mineralogy of the caves. I will also be giving a tour of our rock shop where there will be geode cutting and breaking as well as many interesting mineral specimens from all over the world. After taking lunch, I also plan

to get a guided adventure tour in which we suit up in a coverall and pads with a helmet and light to explore deeper in some of the caves and into places where the common public cannot go. The cost for the tour is going to cost adults \$8.00 and children \$6.00, which is a deal compared to the normal \$12.50 for adults. For the more adventurous, and non-claustrophobic, the adventure tour is a little more pricey at \$30.00, but this is also a deal at half of the normal cost. I need to get a head-count on the adventure tour. Please be advised that there are small spaces, however they are for short periods. I really hope that all of you can make it to this outing. It is going to be a fun filled, exciting, and learning adventure. Stone Bridge is also very kid friendly so be sure to bring your whole family! If you would like any more information, you can call Curtis at (518)-494-7538 or you can email me at cfbreuer@yahoo.com.

Field Trip Reviews

Calloruso Quarry. The fossil dig started promptly at 10.00 am lead by geologist Paul Griggs. We started the day in the old St Lawrence Quarry. Everyone found many interesting fossils....curled cephalopods (looked like snails), a whole bunch of small unidentified fossil pieces, sponges (look like ping-pong balls), cephalopods, trilobites (heads, tails, lips, and random leggings), large hand size bryozoa, coral (3" diameter), brachiopods, quartz crystals, calcite, etc. Unfortunately no turtle eggs or 26" Trilobites were found even though we were told by one member that we might find them there. We moved to few different places in the quarry having good luck at each stop. Did i say it was blazing hot and humid day??? well it was... We then went to the main section of the Callorusso quarry (after they finished their morning work). There are numerous faults at the back end of the quarry, and many interesting items were found; some small quartz crystals and possibly a pyritized cephalopod. With the thunder clouds brewing and the heat and humidity baking us, we called it a day around 2:00pm.

-Robert Stitham

Afterthought...Hopefully we will get invited back next year considering the message the trip leader got a few days after. Apparently, one of our members came late and asked the quarry guy to drive them to us (The shocking part was that this was a long time member that should have known better). This caused the quarry owner to become mad. Our contact guy got yelled at in the quarry, and then Bob

got yelled at by a quarry worker sent by the quarry owner a few days later. Another member drove in on her own late into the quarry and then decided to drive back out without telling the field trip leader that she was leaving (this was a newer member). Could the new members please read their membership packets? And if for some reason you don't have one...please read the safety articles posted on the club website!

-Anne Woods

Field Trip Etiquette

Apparently some of our members are not aware of the rules of the club on a field trip. We meet at a set location at a set time. If you are late: you do not ride on your own into the quarry (since this is dangerous and against the rules); you do not go into the quarry office and inquire where the field trip is and ask to be driven to the people. These are things that make the owners mad. These are things that keep them from giving us permission for the next time we want to go in. These are things that punish those of us members that have done everything correctly. You know who you are. Please don't let this happen again!

When you are in an active quarry, it is unacceptable and dangerous to drive off into other parts of the quarry unsupervised. You must tell the field trip leader of your wish to leave early and then get them to take you out. No exceptions. The field trip leader makes rules to protect you. Please listen to them.

Conclusion: If you are late for the leave time at a quarry, please do not attempt to drive in on your own and/or ask quarry personal for a personal ride to the collecting site. Such activities will result in angry quarry managers who will not let us come back to collect again. Do you want to be personally responsible for the entire club not being let back into a quarry because you chose to be selfish and you just had to come in on your own?

-Anne Woods

Club T-shirts Available

The T-shirt Committee has produced a small amount of short sleeved XL gray T-shirts with the club logo on the front and the quote "I'd rather be rockhounding" on the back. T-shirts are available for \$12 each for this batch from Anne Woods. First come, first served. Only cash (no credit card, no checks, etc.). I get cash in hand, you get T-shirt. When this lot is

gone, the project will be renegotiated amongst the committee members. I will have a small supply with me on field trips throughout the summer. You may contact me directly at the club website.

New Committee

I, President Anne Woods, hereby create the "Field Trip Rules Committee". The purpose of this committee is to rewrite the rules to be followed on a field trip for our club in a way that leaves no interpretation other than that which we mean. Please contact me if you wish to be on this committee.

2008 EFTA Trips

Contact Trip Leaders if you want to attend trips

- July 4-6. Rochester Lapidary Society...Ontario, Canada weekend. Multiple sites/various minerals. Must register by June 4, 2008. Contact Cindi at knewman@frontiernet.net.
- July 6. New Haven Mineral Club. CCC Quarry. Sunday Haddam, CT. Pegmatite Hours 8am-4pm. We do require all persons other than New Haven Mineral Club Members register either by (e-mail, ground mail or phone), with the Chair at least Two weeks prior to dates of field trips. Directions and other instructions will be provided at that time. Contact Art Doyle 203 795 4527 E-Mail adoyle@crofut.com
- July 13. North Shore Rock and Mineral Club. Betts manganese Mine, Plainfield MA. for rhododendrite. Dump digging. Tools- hammer, chisel, shovel, pick, small hand tools. Parking near site. \$5.00 fee. Contact Joe Grace at joegrace@msn.com.
- July 19. Wayne County Gem & Min. Club. Alasa Farm & Chimney Bluffs State Park- Sodus, NY. -Alasa Farm-Fossils (Pentamerus & other brachiopods, graptolites, crinoids) Chimney Bluffs - A variety of rock from Drumlin along Ontario shoreline & unique geologic feature. No facilities. Contact Bill at dirtman300@aol.com or 315-483-8061
- July 19th. SVMC- Lord Hill Quarry- Stoneham, ME- Smoky quartz, topaz, hydroxyl herderite, ball mica, phenakite--standard "dump digging" tools no facilities- Contact Bob York (quartzhunter@aol.com)
- July 19. Rochester Academy of Science Mineral Section. Barton Garnet Mine & Hooper Mine for garnet, hornblende & feldspar gneiss. Limited facilities at first site. Hard hat, safety glasses & sturdy boots. Contact mineraltrips@rasny.org for more details.
- July 26. Wayne County Gem & Min. Club. Cole Hill - Sangerfield, NY Specimens: fossils - brachiopods, trilobites, etc. Contact: Bill Chapman at batnpill@empacc.net or 607-868-4649
- August 16-17. Rochester Academy of Science Mineral Section. Lewis & St. Lawrence Counties for albite, calcite, diopside, fluorapatite, talc, titanite, unakite, uvite, wollastonite. No facilities. Limit 10 EFTA. Contact

mineraltrips@rasny.org for more details.

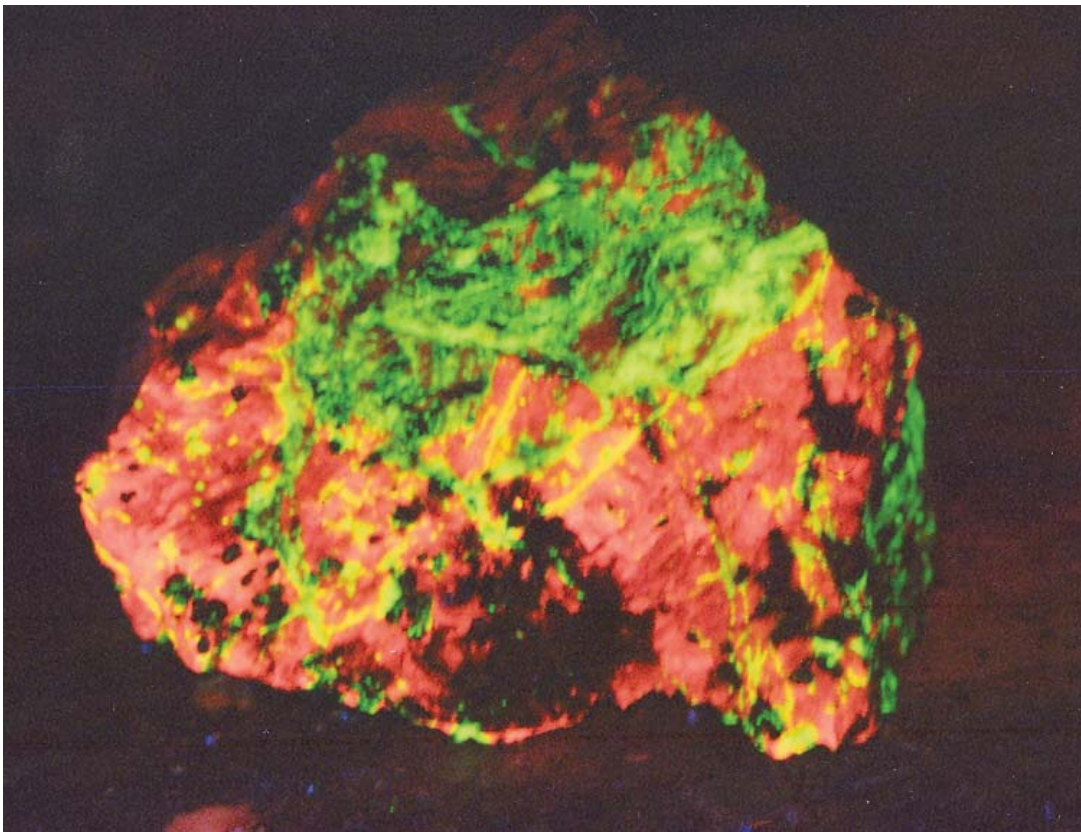
August 16. Mid-Hudson Gem and Mineral. Ilion, NY... fluorescent & phosphorescent travertines. No age restriction. No facilities. Contact Carolyn Reynard at sunstone3@hvc.rr.com for directions and further instructions.

August 23. St. Lawrence County Gem and Mineral...Bowers Powers Farm for Uvite, quartz, apatite. Meet at St. Lawrence County Gem and Mineral Show, Canton Sportsman Club, Gouverneur, NY at 9am to sign up. Contact Bill at wdellie@northnet.org.

August 26. Wayne County Gem & Min. Club...Gore Mt.-Barton Mine, NY for Gore Mt. garnet. Group taken in - pay by the lb of what you take. Contact Bill at batnpill@empacc.net or 607-868-4649.

Mineral Shows

- July 11-13. Marlborough, MA. Show; International Gem & Jewelry Show Inc.; Royal Plaza Trade Center, 181 Boston Post Rd. W; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; adults \$7; Contact Laurie Reluzco, 120 Derwood Cir., Rockville, MD 20850, (301) 294-1640; e-mail: laurie@intergem.net; Web site: www.InterGem.com
- July 12-13. Syracuse, NY. Show; ; Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse; Verizon Center of Progress Bldg., New York State Fairgrounds, Rte. 690; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; Contact Cathy Patterson, (315) 638-8817; Web site: www.gmss.us
- July 26-27. Mattituck, NY. 27th annual show; Long Island Mineral & Geology Society; Mattituck High School, Main Rd. (Rte. 25E); Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4, children under 12 free with adult; Contact Julie Schwahl, 10 Whiting Rd., East Quogue, NY 11942, (631) 594-1843; e-mail: adcom1a@msn.com; Web site: www.limineral-landgeology.com
- July 26-27. South Burlington, VT. 29th annual Champlain Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show; Burlington Gem & Mineral Club; Tuttle Middle School, 500 Dorset St.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, seniors and students 6-16 \$2, children under 6 free with adult; Contact Kathy Howe, (802) 656-4118; Web site: www.burlingtongemandmineralclub.org
- August 8-10. West Springfield, MA East Coast show; Martin Zinn Expositions; Better Living Center, Eastern States Exposition, 1305 Memorial Dr.; Fri. 10-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5; adults \$6, 12 and under free with adult; parking \$5, more than 200 U.S. and foreign dealers, Contact Regina Aumente, Martin Zinn Expositions, P.O. Box 665, Bernalillo, NM 87004, (505) 867-0425; e-mail: mz0955@aol.com
- August 23-24. Canton, NY. Show; St. Lawrence Co. Rock & Mineral Club; Canton Sportsman's Club, Nickerson Rd.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; free admission; field trips, fluorescent mineral hunt; Contact William deLorraine, 1 Indian Head Trail, Gouverneur, NY 13642, (315) 287-4652; e-mail: wdellie@northnet.org; Web site: www.stlawrenceco.com



*A fluorescent rock
under SW from
Sterling Hill, NJ.
Photograph by
Robert Stitham.*

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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.

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