

# 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

JUNE 2005

## June Banquet

The June Meeting/Banquet of the Capital District Mineral Club will be on Thursday June 2, 2005. The doors will only be open from 7:00pm to 7:15pm. The annual June Banquet will be held at the New York State Museum this year. It will be a sit down meal featuring a choice between three items. A salad and desert will accompany the meal as will a choice of a beverage (beer, wine, or soft drink). Additional beverages will be available at an additional cost. The original cost of the banquet is being shared by the museum (due to our recent help with the mineral show), so the discounted cost for the June 2, 2005 Banquet is now \$15 per person with tip included. Deadline to make a reservation is May 25th. This is also the last date that you may cancel. Any attempts to cancel after this date will not be honored, and it will be expected that those people still pay the fee, despite the fact that they are unable to attend (for whatever reason). Please call George or Barbara at (518) 355-0670 or mail it to the club PO Box by May 25th (it must actually be in the mailbox on this date when George goes in to pick up the mail). Make checks payable to the Capital District Mineral Club.

Update: Thirty one members and guests have paid the \$15.00 cost of the semi annual banquet and auction, meeting at the state museum for a catered dinner, seven have phoned an acceptance with the "checks in the mail" response. There is still time to accept this offer from Mike Hawkins, who has agreed to pay half the actual cost of the dinner. We get in the museum at 6 PM and go to the Adirondack room, which is the first left on entering the building. Bring your specimens for the silent auction (remember it is a 80%/20% split, with the 80% going to the member. Dinner will begin at 7PM and the silent auction will follow.

## Banquet Menu

Salad: Mixed wild greens with a Raspberry Vinaigrette

Entree choice (please specify):

- 1) Chicken & Shrimp Piccata  
(lemon & capers butter sauce)
- 2) Fillet of Salmon

(mustard encrusted with lemon parsley butter sauce)

- 3) Prime Rib of Beef Au Jus  
(with horseradish cream sauce)

Desert: Deep Dish Apple Pie

Hot Beverage: Coffee or Tea

Drinks: Cocktail, Beer, Wine, or Soda

## Review of May Meeting

The program featured digital photographs of minerals from both the display cases on the main floor of the museum and more importantly from the shelves and cabinets in the storage areas of the Geological Survey in the museum. Member George Gearhardt (with random comments from Mike Hawkins) presented "Minerals of New York State" an overview of 50-60 specimens in our first PowerPoint presentation.

## Meeting Reminder

Please remember that there are no meetings at the museum for the months of July and August. The next meeting will be in September. Please note that for this time only, the September meeting will be on the 2nd Thursday of the month because of Labor Day weekend.

## Articles of Interest to Dino Lovers

The May 2005 issue of *Natural History* is a special issue titled "Dinosaurs Take Flight" (v. 114, no. 4). Although not the most popular magazine to find, it can be found in most major bookstores. Their website is <[www.naturalhistorymag.com](http://www.naturalhistorymag.com)>...or visit your local library.

## Field Trip Review

LaFarge Trip - Rich Stein led the group into the quarry after they all met at the Family Dollar in Ravena, NY on May 1, 2005. The day started overcast and dreary, with a cold breeze. With hot coffee from Dunkin Donuts in hand, we headed into the quarry. First stop was at the office/shop area for a discussion of the geology of the site by Quarry Manager Dave Bremer. Following a brief review of safety requirements, we were off to the collecting areas. Dropped several members off at the fossil area, then the main body continued on to the crystal area at the north end of the quarry. The original heap and some additional material had been widely spread out to make collecting very easy. There was still enough collectable material to satisfy everyone. Even so, there were a couple finds that required group participation to demolish boulders. Further collecting at this spot will necessitate blasting open more of the floor. Thence back to the current mining areas. Some good finds here. Not able to get to the obvious crystals in the sump. Even though pumping was in progress, there was an equal quantity of water being pumped in. The sun arrived about noon time, just in time to warm us up and dry up some of the mud. Made the trip memories much fonder. Attendees

included: Bob Hartig, Anne Woods, Bob Stitham, Bob Ballard, Jim Palmer, Melana Maracchion, Bob Kaufman, Max Fischer, Marcia McCoy, Gerald Boileau, and trip leader Rich Stein.

Schoharie Creek Mine, Schoharie, NY. On Saturday May 14, 2005 at 10am, participants met at the Great American on Main St. in Schoharie, NY with Field Trip Leader Jim Palmer. Anne Woods started transporting people off-road back and forth to the creek in Bob Ballard's truck (as Bob was merrily rowing down the Schoharie creek in his rowboat...which was slowly taking on water). Upon arrival at the creek side, Bob took participants two at a time (to level out the boat) across the Schoharie and to the mine where the pyrite was. No folks, the boat never sank...but it had us wondering a few times. Everyone got at least a few specimens of pyrite. The poison ivy wasn't as bad as we thought it would be. It was a beautiful day...sunny, not too warm, low on the bugs. It was interesting to see where the flood line was, about 10-15 feet above our heads. This could be seen by the cornstalk husks hanging high in the trees. And yes, we have at least one picture to prove it. Attendees included: Anne Woods, Ray \_\_\_\_\_, Bob Ballard, Cheryl & Tom Halleran, Melana Maracchion, Bob & Teka Stitham, and field trip leader Jim Palmer.

### **Field Trips for June**

Please note that you must make reservations with trip leaders ahead of time if you plan on attending a trip. Also please arrive at the location when specified. Most trip leaders will not wait for you, and it is not fair to the other field-trippers to ask them to.

Wise Mine, Westmoreland, NH. The Wise Mine trip originally scheduled for June 4 seems to be cancelled cause no one can figure out who to ask to get permission.

Saint Lawrence Cement Quarry, Hudson, NY. Meet at the parking lot of St. Lawrence Cement Quarry on Route 9 in Hudson, NY at 10am on Sunday July 11. Field trip leader Bob Stitham can be contacted at: 518-851-5120 to secure a spot. Only 40 people maximum allowed to attend. Equipment needed for active quarry: hard hats, work boots, safety glasses, gloves, no facilities, bring water and light snack since lunch is not provided, bug spray. Tools: Both hard rock mining and specimen pickup available at this location. Bring sledgehammer, chisels, bars, etc. Fossils can be easily found, some easily acquired. Children allowed under adult supervision.....or vice versa. Anyone breaking quarry rules set forth by the quarry manager or Field trip leader Bob Stitham will be asked to leave.

Fossils, Clarksville, NY. Meet at the Stewarts at the corner of NY Route 443 and NY Route 85 at 9am on June 18. This meeting place is located west of Clarksville. Field trip leader Jim Palmer can be contacted at 518-399-9090. Materials needed: bucket, prybar, bug spray, water, snack, safety glasses, gloves, hiking boots. Jim has requested that participants not bring chisels or a hammer. He says most material can just be picked up as you see it. Jim will have an emergency hammer and chisel if needed. Materials to collect: Fossils. No facilities.

## **Eastern Field Trip Alliance (EFTA) Field Trip Itinerary as of April 28, 2005**

*Contact Bob Hartig if you want to attend trips: 518-842-5948*

June 3, 2005. Syracuse Gem & Mineral Society. St. Johnsville, NY Crystal Grove Diamond Mine for Herkimer Diamonds. 11:30 AM

June 11, 2005. Capital District Mineral Club. Hudson, NY. Fossils – shells, coral, crinoids, trilobites. Working quarry rules. No facilities.

June 11, 2005. Worcester Mineral Club. Chester Emery Mine. Chester, MA. Margarite, Magnetite, Diaspore. <<http://worcesterminalclub.org>>

July 9, 2005. North Shore Rock and Mineral Club. Chester Massachusetts. Melvin and Old Emery Mines for margarite, corundum, hornblend, and magnetite.

July 31, 2005. North Shore Rock and Mineral Club. Swiftwater New Hampshire. Wild Ammonoosuc gold panning.

Aug 20, 2005. Worcester Mineral Club. VAG Mine. Eden Mills, VT. Vesuvianite, garnet, diopside, and serpentine, <<http://worcesterminalclub.org>>

Aug. 27 & 28 2005. Saco Valley Gem & Mineral Club. Eden Mills, VT (Belvedere Mtn. Mines) aka Vermont Asbestos Group- Over 60 different mineral species (see midat.org) especially gemmy grossular garnets, actinolite, clinozoisite, epidote, vesuvianite etc. Gates open at 8AM- Small fee (\$5) may be required to offset entrance charge to our club.

Sept. 10, 2005. Fulton County. Tentative. Crystal Grove, St. Johnsville, NY. Herkimer Diamonds & calcite xls. Possible swap and dig. Camping available. See <<http://www.crystalgrove.com>> for more info. \$7 a day dig fee.

Sept. 25th 2005. Saco Valley Gem & Mineral Club. Hurricane Mountain, Bartlett, NH.- smoky quartz, feldspar, amethyst, zircon, arfvedsonite (one of the few U.S. locations) Meet at Scenic Rest Area-Intervale, NH at 8AM.

Oct. 2nd, 2005. Saco Valley Gem & Mineral Club. Moat Mountain, Albany, NH- Smoky quartz, microcline, danalite, fluorite, topaz. Meet at National Forest Mineral Parking area for Moat Mtn. at 8AM directions (including name & phone number of trip leader) will be posted on the SVG&M club web site.

### **June 2005 Show Announcements**

June 11. Kent, CT. 3rd annual swap and sale; Connecticut Museum of Mining and Mineral Science; Connecticut Antique Machinery Association, Rte. 7; Sat. 9-4; Contact John Pawloski, 42 Squash Hollow Rd., New Milford, CT 06776, (860) 354-0296; e-mail: [j.a.pawloski@worldnet.att.net](mailto:j.a.pawloski@worldnet.att.net).

June 25-26. Gilsum, NH. 41st annual swap and show; Gilsum Recreation Committee; Gilsum Elementary School, Rte. 10; Sat. 8-6, Sun. 8-4; free admission; more than 70 dealers, swappers, Minerals of Mexico presentation, ham and bean dinner Sat.; Contact Robert Mitchell, Gilsum Recreation Committee, P.O. Box 76, Gilsum, NH 03448, (603) 357-9636; e-mail: [rmitchell60@adelphia.net](mailto:rmitchell60@adelphia.net).

July 9-10. Syracuse, NY. 38th annual show and sale; Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse; Cargill Exposition Center, New York State Fairgrounds, off I-690; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; adults \$5, children under 12 free; more than 55 dealers, 12 wholesale; Contact Gene Ridall, (315) 656-3692; Website: [www.gmss.us](http://www.gmss.us).

July 30-31. Mattituck (Long Island), NY. 24th annual show; Long Island Mineral & Geological Society; Mattituck High School; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, \$2.50 with flier, children under 12 free with adult; grand door prize of a faceted, 54-carat, pear-shapes amethyst; Contact Ron Lupo, (631) 878-4405; e-mail: faceter01@hotmail.com.

July 30-31. South Burlington, VT. 26th annual show; Burlington Gem & Mineral Club; Tuttle Middle School, 500 Dorset St.; Sat.-Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, seniors and ages 6-16 \$2, children under 6 free with adult; Contact Steve Howe, (802) 656-4118; Website: [www.burlingtongemandmineralclub.org](http://www.burlingtongemandmineralclub.org).

### **"Fabulous Fred" Returns to Wildacres**

*from Esther Dunn, Wildacres Functioning Committee Chair*

Fred Ward, the well known author and gem expert will be our guest speaker for the fall 2005 Wildacres Workshop. "Fabulous Fred" is the author of a very successful series of books on gems - you probably have at least one in your own library. He's traveled the world in his research of these books, met with the top experts in the fields he's studied, and brings with him a vast amount of knowledge, terrific photographs, and an amazing way of sharing what he's learned with an audience.

If you've never heard "Fabulous Fred" speak, you're in for a treat. If you have heard him before, you know you're in for a treat. His humor, photographic and story telling skills are all first rate.

We've been bragging about Wildacres in these pages since 1973 when the Eastern Federation first gained access to the mountaintop retreat many of us have come to love. The property is owned by a non-profit Foundation that invites a variety of groups to hold workshops dedicated "to the betterment of mankind" at its facility. Writers, musicians, painters, artisans, religious groups, to name just a few, all use the facility during the year.

Wildacres is a serene place. Located in a private mountain off the Blue Ridge Parkway in North Carolina, you look out at Mt. Mitchell and the surrounding Blue Ridge Mountains. The retreat consists of two modern lodges, and auditorium, craft buildings and a dining hall. Bedrooms are comfortable, motel style rooms each with private bath. Each room overlooks the lush green of the surrounding area. Automobile noise is rarely heard (usually only when staff comes or goes) and nights are punctuated only by the sounds of the katydids or an occasional owl.

You'll spend your week with us surrounded by members from other gem and mineral clubs in the Eastern Federation. You'll also have a chance to meet members from the other 6 AFMS regional federations because we are once again hosting the AFMS Judges Seminar. You'll be able to gain a new perspective on what club life, collecting, and hobby interests are all over the USA during your week with us this fall.

Besides being with and hearing "Fabulous Fred" Ward, you'll also get a chance to take classes taught by our wonderful cadre of instructors, explore the area, come to our "good stuff" auction, laugh during "Fun Night" and best of all, share your hobby with others.

Best of all, the cost for the week is only \$280. This includes your

room and board! The only additional cost to you is a modest fee for materials (like silver or wire) in the classes you take and these depend on the class. Most tools are provided by either Wildacres or the instructor for the class in which you are enrolled.

So what are you waiting for?

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George Gearhardt will have registration forms available at the June banquet. The classes offered are: (1) Judging & Exhibiting; (2) Faceting; (3) Cabochons-Basic; (4) Cabochons-Intermediate; (5) Wirecraft-Basic; (6) Wirecraft-Advanced; (7) Micromounting; (8) Crystallography; (9) Silversmithing-Basic; (10) Silversmithing-Intermediate; and (11) Soapstone Carving.

### **Mike Hawkins**

#### **Our Honorary Scholarship Recipient**

*by Carl Miller, EFMLS President*

Mike is truly a homegrown candidate for the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies nomination for the American Federation Scholarship Honoree. Mike was born and raised in Kingston, NY graduating from high school in Kingston. He then went to the University of Buffalo in Buffalo, NY.

Mike is truly one of "us". His uncle collected minerals and at the age of five when visiting his uncle Mike would look through shoeboxes of minerals that his uncle had. He immediately became fascinated with them. He started picking up rocks after that, and in the fourth grade he got a copy of the Pough mineral field guide and also had a teacher that was a mineral collector. He has collected minerals ever since.

As an indicator of his future career as collections manager at a major museum, growing up Mike occasionally worked with some of his neighborhood buddies to put together natural history displays of frogs, bugs, and rocks, and would then have other neighborhood kids come and see their displays. Through his teens he continued to grow his interest in minerals, and would often have his parents take him to the old Museum of Natural History in New York City. In his early 20s he stepped up to a new level of mineral collecting and identification by teaching himself wet-chemistry testing of minerals to help him identify them. Shortly thereafter he saw an advertisement for the Mid-Hudson Valley Gem & Mineral Society's annual show in Poughkeepsie, NY, and attended the show around 1980. He ended up joining their club at that show, and has been a member ever since.

Mike spent 20 years in the Europe and Middle East working as a political consultant. At the end of the Cold War he came back to the United States and continued in political consulting, but also got re-involved in the mineral hobby. Shortly after coming back to the US he also started working as a volunteer at the New York State Museum Institute in Albany, NY in the Mineral Section in 1987.

Working as a volunteer at the museum he got to know curator Bill Kelly in the late 1980s. Mike often discussed with Bill and others at the museum that the New York State collection really needed a lot of work including being cataloged. He made this comment so

many times that finally one day Bill Kelly said “Why don’t you do it?” Mike started cataloguing and working on the collection, and officially went on the payroll as Collections Manager in August 1992.

In an era when most mineral museums around the country are shrinking or even eliminating their mineral collections, Mike has helped usher in a revitalization of the New York State Museum collection, and involving the mineral clubs of New York in the process. Refocusing the museum’s collection on New York State minerals, Mike has been instrumental in the museum acquiring major collections of New York State minerals. Mike has also been successful in expanding the mineral display section at the museum several times over the past decade, and also in finding funding for acquisitions. He also helped develop and now oversees the museum’s annual gem, mineral, and fossil show each February at the museum, now in its 12th year.

Mike helped found the New York Academy of Mineralogy, an adjunct organization to the museum, along with representatives from academia and amateurs. He involved state clubs in its creation and direction. The Academy is dedicated to promoting a greater understanding and appreciation of the mineralogy of New York State. It encourages research and technical papers on New York State mineralogy that has identified new mineral species both to New York and the world, reinvestigate and define existing minerals in the New York State collection, and rediscover and document historical and new mineral locations in the state.

Mike has long been a good friend of the mineral hobby, supporting clubs in and around New York by displaying specimens from the State collection at club shows, coming to speak at club meetings, being an advocate for clubs with mineral collecting localities, and occasionally attending and leading club field trips.

The Eastern Federation is proud to nominate Michael Hawkins its AFMS Scholarship Honoree for 2005.

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## **Safety First - Safety Rules for Field Trips**

*by Bill Klose, EFMLS Safety Chair*

Field trip season is upon us and we need to pause and review appropriate safety rules. Field trip leaders need to review these rules before every field trip.

1. Never go on a field trip alone. Have someone along who can help or summon help if necessary. Make sure someone knows where you have gone and when you will return. Carry a cell phone with spare battery to expedite your communications. Call someone if you are going to change your routine or are going to be late. Should you leave a field trip early, notify the person in charge.
2. Should there be children on the field trip, have them within sight or talking distance at all times. A child could not only become lost, but could encounter a snake, scorpion, etc., or have an accident of some sort.
3. Do not collect directly above or below other people or below unstable rock piles, cliff walls or overhangs where there may be danger of falling rock.

4. Park so that all cars can get out. Do not block the roadway. Do not drive cars, SUVs, or RVs, such as “4 wheelers”, across fields to avoid damaging property, setting grass fires with catalytic converters or damaging the vehicle. Do not drive across or walk on newly planted or cultivated fields without special permission.
5. Have your vehicle in proper working order with appropriate emergency equipment and supplies.
6. Make sure that all fires are completely out and wet down the ashes with water, stir to make sure there are not any buried embers and then smother completely with dirt. Adhere to local fire regulations and warnings.
7. Break all matches and shred all cigarettes before discarding and be careful where they are disposed of. Take them with you rather than leaving them as litter.
8. Do not throw rocks or engage in “horse play” and do not allow children to do so.
9. Do not over exert or stay in the direct sunlight or heat too long. Take a rest in the shade from time to time and drink plenty of electrolyte replacing fluids, such as sports drinks. Properly wear appropriate safety equipment, sunscreen, and clothing.
10. Avoid old mine tunnels. Never go into a mine alone. Carry a flashlight and a candle with you. Carbon dioxide or other gases, such as methane, may be present. There may even be a lack of Oxygen. Mines are also havens for snakes, scorpions, spiders, rodents and their feces which can carry disease. Mines may also contain uncovered shafts and pits. Also be extremely cautious around abandoned buildings. You may stumble into old deep wells or cesspools not properly covered.
11. Respect property rights and signs. Obtain permission to enter property if owned by private individuals or corporations. Attend company safety briefings required by MOSHA and sign releases. Pay attention to and practice the companies safety policies. Adhere to government regulations and restrictions if collecting on public lands or parks. Pay any collecting fees required and do not exceed collecting limits where established.
12. Inquire if there are any dangerous animals on the property. Close all gates you open.
13. Refill any holes you dig so people or animals will not fall in. Do not dump dirt or other debris into streams.
14. Respect another’s diggings. If a person has left for lunch or for any other reason with the intent of returning, and has left a pick, coat, or definite marker, find another spot.
15. Leave any place in good condition. Don’t leave paper, cans, and other litter lying around to mar the beauty of the place, and to tell others that you have been there. Take your litter with you, do not bury it.
16. Never eat wild berries or anything else unless you are absolutely sure they are safe. Carry bottled water or other drinks and do not drink from streams or wells that have not been recently tested.
17. Be able to recognize poison ivy, poison oak, etc. Should there be any doubt, don’t touch.
18. Always be alert for snakes, scorpions, ticks, spiders, rodent infestations, etc. Be very careful where you place your hands and feet.
19. Bring and properly use the appropriate well maintained and inspected tools. Don’t expect others to provide tools for you.
20. Use proper lifting and carrying techniques to bring home your finds. Do not overload your vehicle.

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## Wy Opal, the New Gold Rush?

by Don Kauffman

“There’s gold in them thar hills!” Whether that comment was made at California Sutter’s Fort or the backwoods of Arkansas, It sent people scrambling to some unknown location with a bad case of gold fever. Now a similar call may be beckoning mineral prospectors to a remote and desolate county in Wyoming. Cause for uproar is one of mankind’s favorite non-crystalline, chalcedony-like minerals, opal.

Not long ago Wyoming State Geological Survey released a report announcing a newly discovered opal deposit in Fremont County. Reasoning behind disclosure appeared to be to stimulate “a successful and lucrative mining operation.” A state geologist called for precise announcement timing “so that no one...gets an unfair advantage.” Corpus delicti behind this plan was a rather large chunk of opal found at the location.

A geology instructor at local community college stated that she would “withhold judgement.” Her reasons being that while state opal deposits are many, most prove to be poor quality traces. Wyoming’s state geologist countered that the chunk of opal brought back from the site displayed a “broad band of colors.” However, there was no indication the boulder was “precious” opal or not.

Years ago when I lived in Denver, learning my cousin lived in Lander, Wyoming. I visited on several occasions. That experience helps me offer a little insight into this mineral discovery. (Which may be just as much insight as anyone else who may be looking into prospecting there.)

Drive northeast of Lander on Route 719, you find Riverton which is located on confluence of Wind and Big Horn Rivers. Info from WGS generally states the new opal deposit is in southeast mountains. (But so is the Lost Dutchman’s gold *generally* in Arizona’s Superstition Mountains.) Other notable information is that this is Arapaho-Shoshone Indian Reservation country. (My cousin taught for a time on Wind River Reservation until the Indian council tossed out all the whites.)

Last but not least, there is a high probability the bonanza is very near once prosperous Gas Hills Uranium Mining District. When I passed through lower Shirley Basin Uranium District below Lander the area had long been a ghost town. Heyday for uranium prospecting and production was long over. Could this be a state conspiracy to revitalize that area?

If you are inclined to adventure here is a list of proven opal-collecting sites in North America. Most any article about opal will name them for you. They are all fee locations with a safe track record but not exactly easy pickings. Work is hard as in Herkimer hunting.

Virgin Valley, Nevada has been worked for one hundred years. Opal here is considered to be “precious” with an array of color. Closer to home, check out VV opal at the Smithsonian in DC. It is stated that “if you are lucky you could find a piece equally as beautiful.”

Nearby Rainbow Ridge is a fee site where you can literally apply garden skills. Rake, shovel and sift clay until you expose colorful opal rough. Royal Peacock, over the hill from Rainbow Ridge, allows you to actually dig into a bona fide mine face as well as sift and shovel through a pile of tailings. Work here is not for the lazy, some prospectors are rewarded with stunning black opal.

Hard rock mining is also thematic at Royal Rainbow Fire Opal Mine. You have to swing a heavy hammer to dig out opal from black volcanic basalt. Then you can hope to find opal filled interior vugs.

Moving north there is hope of finding opal in southeastern Idaho. But mining in rhyolite-obsidian is guaranteed hard digging. Fee collecting is in tailing piles due to safety considerations at the mine face.

Finally, if you still want to prospect at tried and true North American opal sites, there is always British Columbia. Okanagan Opal Mines of Vernon, BC offer volcanic hard rock opal mining. If you are determined enough to go that distance and swing a hammer your reward is from a proven boulder opal location. Your source is a tailings pile.

The jury may be out for a long time concerning how good material is at Riverton’s opal location. You would probably be safer to buy opal at an East Coast gem and mineral show or Mexican fire opal at a favorite rock shop.

Any Wy opal of value will eventually surface at some show. Best odds are all *against* you collecting out there.

Distance, snakes and chances of trespassing on Indian property or some old mining claim plus poisoning from uranium residue are all elements of adventurous opal prospecting that a fail to excite me.

Factor in a continuous Wyoming wind and notoriety for having the highest national suicide rate. It is no wonder Wyoming is trying to draw more people in. The state must be almost empty. I think I’ll try my adventurous mineral prospecting in Wyoming County, PA.

References: inspiration from Associated Press article.

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West Texas Geological Society <<http://www.wsgs.uwyo.edu/>>

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check the update section regularly

**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.