



WAYNE COUNTY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB NEWS

VOLUME 35 No. 04 APRIL 2009



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President's Message

HEE! [Happy Easter Everyone!] Just recovering from car & socializing lag. Our PA explorers turned up 3 gems on our latest field trip. 1. Ken Rowe's double terminated quartz crystal from a rock cut's driveway gravel will make Rocky a fine specimen for a necklace. 2. The National Limestone Quarry - where there's no way to take home all the crystals you find & 3. The Carlisle Diner where you can still get 2 eggs, home fries & toast for \$1.59. (see fig. 1 below) The weather threatened to dampen our spirits & coats on Day 1 but the dryer at our motel made short work of that. Barbie, the manager of the Diner, provided myself with a collecting bucket & offered the others containers as well. We thanked her with some chalcopryite from NY. Her son, Dylan's eyes widened she said, and proclaimed that this was his best piece ever as he cleared a place in his stone collection. He had several more specimens by the time we left and we came away with some new friends. Our last stop was in Athens, PA for the Che- Hanna Rock & Mineral Show on Sat. Old friends caught up with one another & enjoyed the Carnegie Display of unusual mineral specimens amongst others. Bill Chapman celebrated his 65th birthday here surrounded by rockhounds while at a rock show followed by eating Chinese food topped off with birthday cake. (see fig. 2 on pg 2) He was one happy man. We're looking forward to our next field trip adventure and hope you can come along. The road leads us to Fayetteville, Lords Corners, Lake Ontario, & the Penfield Quarry. And to think the season's only just begun...

Pat



1 Ken, Don, and Jerry on a man-mission!

WCGMC MINUTES of March 13, 2009

The WCGMC meeting started at 8:30 pm after show and tell of favorite rocks by our members. The minutes were read of the February 13, 2009 meeting. Ken Rowe motioned that they be accepted as read and Jerry Donahue seconded the motion. Minutes were accepted. The treasurers report was read. Our tax number is now activated. A bill for the Safety Inspector training course in Pa for \$126.39 for room and gas was submitted. Ken Rowe made a motion to pay the bill and Terry Wilson seconded. The bill was voted on and accepted. Another bill submitted by the mini-miners was for 5 Streak test kits, they were \$10.00 each. Wendy Simpson and the Chapman's each purchased one kit. The rest are for the club to hang onto. Ken Rowe again motioned the bill be paid with Wendy Simpson seconding the motion. Motion was voted and passed. We now have 5 certified safety people. They are Mike Buynak, Mark Wade, Pat and Bill Chapman, and Bill Lesniak. Jerry Donahue will still be our Safety Chairperson making sure that we have at least one safety person present at our digs. Pat Chapman announced that our members Glenn and Eva Jane Weiler's son has been in a bad accident. She read the letter that she had sent them. We will pray for his total recovery.

Old Business: Our books have not been audited as yet. Still waiting for the auditing team members to be in the same state. The three trips added to EFTA list are April 4 trip to Fayetteville, April 19(Sun) trip to pick up Larvekite, and June 6&7 trip to Middleville for Herkimer Diamonds. Bill 554 was defeated by a narrow margin, so we can still collect fossils and minerals on Federal Land where allowed.

New Business: Mark Wade went over the Safety training notes. There was a question on the floor to see if we should start mini- miners earlier at 6:00. This would reduce the noise level. More discussion at the April meeting. May 30th for the Geology Badge for Scouts. The following have volunteered to man stations: Susie Hoch, Bill Chapman, Ken Rowe, Bill Lesniak, Mark Wade, Julie Zeller, and Daryl Powell. Bill Lesniak has volunteered to write up what each station is doing. There was also discussion about purchasing hand held CB radio's for trips for communications however nothing was decided. More discussion at the next meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 pm.

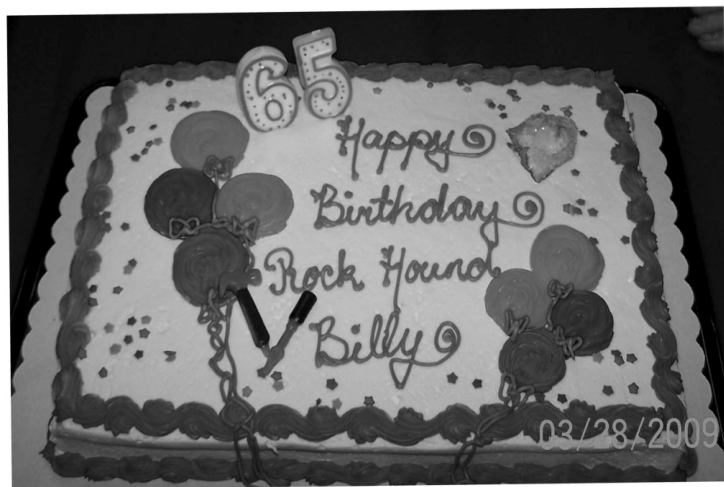


Figure 2 Old Rock-Hounds become like diamonds with age.

KUDOS--- to those folks like Susie Hoch, Bill Chapman, Ken Rowe, Bill Lesniak, Mark Wade, Julie Zeller, and Daryl Powell who are putting together the geology program for the scouting youngsters... KUDOS to Jerry D., Don Schiltz, and Ken Rowe for keeping the Chapmans in line and in one piece on the Carlisle trip...KUDOS to the new members of the group Tim and Eileen Keisinger who have enjoyed their time with the rest of us... KUDOS to Andrea Kords who, we all know, is in the background of the scenes and planning the details to the Annual October show in Newark... KUDOS to Wendy Simpson for the interest in the Streak test kits... KUDOS to Julie Zeller for the artistic approach she teaches the mini-miners with Darryl Powell... KUDOS to the Rowe's for being the catalysts of a secure ,reasonably-priced, lovely set of meeting rooms for our club meetings in the past and right now in 2009....(nominate fellow members!)

KEY TO BIRTHSTONES

January= Garnet

February =Amethyst

March =Aquamarine

April =Diamond

May =Emerald

June =Pearl

July =Ruby

August =Peridot

September= Sapphire

October =Opal

November =Topaz

December= Turquoise

UPCOMING WCGM CLUB MEETINGS

April 10th, 2007 (Friday) Park Presbyterian Church, Newark, NY

North entrance doors open at 6:30pm. Club & Board meeting 7pm. Mini-miners and general meeting start 7:30pm. ***NOTE: watch out for meeting change alerts!**



May 08, 2009 (Friday)

North entrance doors open at 6:30pm.

Mini-miners and general meeting at 7:30pm

Regular meeting night.



3 Hmmm...Burger "Queen"?????

THE WCGMC extends its best hopes and wishes for speedy recovery to the Weiler family member.

Penfield Dolomite Quarry Open House **on May 2, 2009**

The Penfield Dolomite Quarry is having an Open House on Saturday, May 2, 2009 from 7 AM to 12 PM. Please bring your quarry PPE [hard hat, steel toed shoes, safety glasses] & digging utensils. Hard rock digging. Dolomite – looking for fluorite, sphalerite, & calcite. Safety meeting mandatory at 7 AM. See you there! Courtesy of the Dolomite Group, Inc. 1150 Penfield Road, Rochester, NY 14625 office (585) 381-7010 Pat Chapman can give directions to the site. (contributed by Pat Chapman)

SCOUTS' GEOLOGY BADGE EVENTS

Our May 30th Scout-Geology- Badge/Belt Loops Event of the year will take place. We will need samples of minerals, rocks, and fossils for distribution to scouts in making up a starters collection. There will be all kinds of jobs to be done that day. Don't need to be a geologist to help. Help labeling, cutting out diagrams, checking off forms, just to mention a few. The more, the merrier we all will be. This will take place at , Ginegaw Park, 3600 Lorraine Dr, Walworth, NY 14568. Just around the corner from the new American Hobby Shop. For info, see Bill Lesniak or Pat Chapman.

ROCK-HOUNDING AND FINDING **U. S.A. in April.....**

4: Fayetteville, Lafayette & Lords Corners Area, NY (EFTA FT) Specimens: Fayetteville – Selenite, Lafayette – pyritized fossils, Lords Corners - large horn coral 7AM: Breakfast at Blue Ribbon Restaurant at Rt. 88 & Rt. 96. 8AM: Contact: Ken Rowe

4-5: Johnson City, NY- Southern Tier Geology Club Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show.

4-5: Hicksville, NY - 37th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show sponsored by Island Rockhounds. Holy Family School, Hicksville, NY

4 -12 Arkansas Field Trip Limit 20 participants, Contact Dave Millis 305-395-9560 or Cindy Neuman at 585-261-4747. **Pre-Registration was March 15 MANDATORY.** See EFTA for info

18-19: Pittsburgh, PA - Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Monongahela Rockhounds. West Mifflin Volunteer Fire Co #4, Skyview Hall, Pittsburgh, PA

19: trip to pick up Larvekite (Contact Bill Lesniak Dirtman300@aol.com)

25-26: Franklin, NJ - Franklin (NJ) Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Franklin-Ogdensburg Mineralogical Society and others. Franklin School, Washington Av; Franklin, NJ

25-26: Irvine, KY - 46th Annual Blue Grass Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Blue Grass Gem & Mineral Club. Estill Co. School's Central Office, Irvine, KY.

(And also: **June 6&7** trip to Middleville for Herkimer Diamonds with new quarry opening....)

New Late Cretaceous macrobaenid turtle with Asian affinities from the High Canadian Arctic: Dispersal via ice-free polar routes

Deborah Vandermark¹, John A. Tarduno^{1,2}, Donald B. Brinkman³, Rory D. Cottrell¹, **Stephanie Mason**¹ ¹Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Rochester, Rochester, New York 14627, USA ²Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Rochester, Rochester, New York 14627, USA ³Royal Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology, P.O. Box 7500, Drumheller, Alberta T0J 0Y0, Canada

(Downloaded from geology.gsapubs.org on 6 February 2009- © 2009 Geological Society of America)

ABSTRACT A new turtle, *Aurorachelys gaffneyi* gen. et sp. nov., is described on the basis of a carapace and plastron of late Turonian–Coniacian age from Axel Heiberg Island in the High Canadian Arctic. This turtle is a member of the Macrobaenidae, a group that is thought to have originated in Asia. It differs from all other Late Cretaceous macrobaenids in its nearly circular shell. The earliest record of acrobaenids in North America documented by this specimen, together with the earliest records of other turtle clades that presumably originated in Asia, indicates that turtle dispersal was episodic, with most first occurrences of Asian taxa in North America clustering around the Turonian. The high global temperatures of the Turonian are interpreted as facilitating this episode of dispersal of Asian turtle groups into North America. Islands and seamounts in the young, volcanically active Arctic Ocean during the Late Cretaceous may have acted as an alternative to an Alaskan intercontinental route, and may have allowed macrobaenids to enter the part of North America east of the interior continental seaway.

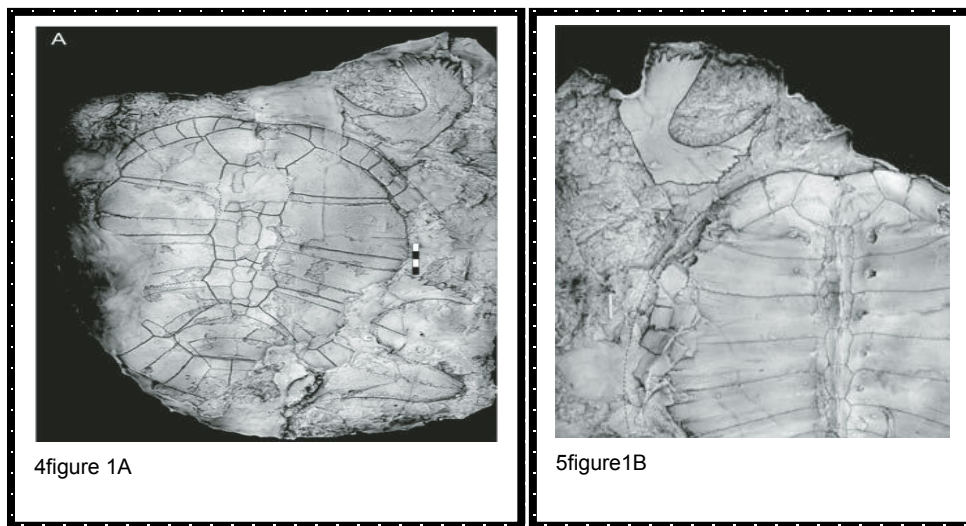
INTRODUCTION Late Cretaceous turtle assemblages from North America comprise endemic taxa and taxa that had Asian origins (e.g., Hutchison, 2000; Brinkman, 2001; Joyce and Norell, 2005). Fossil freshwater reptiles of Asian origin from high latitudes of North America are as yet unknown, and possible routes and factors facilitating dispersal remain unclear. Here we report the discovery of a large fossil turtle with Asian affinities from Turonian–Coniacian deposits on Axel Heiberg Island in the High Canadian Arctic. This specimen is referable to the Macrobaenidae, a paraphyletic group that is present in the Early Cretaceous of Asia but is unknown in North America prior to the late Campanian, more than 10 m.y. later. The type locality occurs at 71°N paleolatitude (Tarduno et al., 2002), and documents a vertebrate assemblage that includes fish (Friedman et al., 2003), champsosaurs (Tarduno et al., 1998; Vandermark et al., 2007), and at least three other kinds of turtles (Brinkman and Tarduno, 2005). The earliest unequivocal record of macrobaenids in North America as documented by this specimen, together with the earliest North American records of other turtle clades that presumably originated in Asia, provides insight into the temporal and spatial nature of faunal dispersal. **Systematic paleontology:** Reptilia Testudines Eucryptodira Macrobaenidae *Aurorachelys gaffneyi* gen. et sp. nov. **Etymology:** From the Latin *aurora* (dawn), in reference to the prolonged low light and auroras in the winter at the paleolatitude at which this turtle lived. Specific name honors Gene Gaffney, Emeritus Curator, American Museum of Natural History, for his continued research and important contributions to turtle systematics. **Holotype:** University of Rochester UR 06.085; impressions of the dorsal (part, Fig. 1A) and ventral (counterpart, Fig. 1B) carapacial surfaces, and impressions of posterior plastron with a single hyoplastron and both hypoplastra and xiphiplastra. **Locality and horizon:** Thin 3 m siltstone and shale layer above subaerial flood basalts of the Strand Fiord Formation, and below marine deposits of the Kanguk Formation, Expedition Fiord (79°23.52N, 92°10.92W), Axel Heiberg Island, Nunavut Territory, Canada. These beds have been dated to 92–86 Ma (Late Cretaceous, Turonian–Coniacian) (Tarduno et al., 1998). **Diagnosis:** A macrobaenid turtle similar to Late Cretaceous and Paleocene genera, but differing from Early Cretaceous genera in having a carapace >30 cm long and in having wellformed hexagonal neurals, and differing from all Late Cretaceous and Paleocene genera in having a more nearly circular shell. Also differing from *Judithemys* in having a mid-plastra fenestra, and differing from *Anatolemys* in that the posterior lobe of the plastron is longer and narrower.

DESCRIPTION To better describe the specimen, silicone latex peels of the impressions were prepared and whitened with ammonium chloride (Figs. 1A and 1B). The type and only specimen of *Aurorachelys* preserves an impression of the nearly complete dorsal surface of the carapace, documenting the epidermal scute pattern and parts of the dermal bone sutures (Figs. 1A and 1B); the counterpart impression records the ventral surface of the carapace, offering a nearly complete view of the pattern of sutures, as well as remnants of the rib and vertebral column (Fig. 1B). Together these impressions permit reconstruction of the entire carapace (Fig. 2A). Disarticulated pieces of the plastron, specifically a yoplastron and posterior part of the plastron (including an articulated hypo plastron and xiphiplastra) were preserved adjacent to the carapacial impressions (Figs. 1A and 1B), allowing a tentative reconstruction of the plastron (Fig. 2B). Remnants of limb and girdle elements are visible on the surface, including a scapula and undetermined limb bones. *****

Figure 1. Impression of carapace (latex peel; see Data Repository [see text footnote 1]) with sutures and sulci highlighted. A: Dorsal view, also showing hyoplastron and hypoplastron with articulated xiphiplastra. B: Ventral view. Scale bars = 4 cm.

(EDITOR'S NOTE- This is the article that also resulted from **Stephanie Mason's** Arctic Trip. She said they named the find "Hugo". Figures 1a and 1b are to the right of this caption, while figures 2a and 2b will be in the next edition of this newsletter. Due to the overall size of the article, the newsletter will show it in segments. Please read or better, subscribe to "Geology" to read the entire article at one time. Thank you, Steph!)

GEOLOGY, February 2009 v.37; no. 2; p. 183–186; doi: 10.1130/G25415A.
4 figures; Data Repository item 2009045.



STERLING HILL, NJ – Mine dig events for APRIL 25th, 2009

March 31, 2009 Greetings GlowHounds! Your TripMaster has been to Sterling Hill several times over the winter. Folks are excited about April 25th - last year was again a simply "smashing event" and the great news this year is... The registration fee is \$20. We will have a full repeat of all the exciting special events we did last year, and once again those who attend will have their chance to "pick a piece of history" by selecting their choice of a piece of ore that still sits on the mill's conveyor belt from the day the Sterling Hill Mine was shut down - Good Friday, March 28th 1986. This year, 2009, we have some really, really exciting news -- the "Passaic" and the "Nobel" pits have been excavated, turning up new soil for our explorations. Millions of tons of new soil have been trucked in from upstate NY and CANADA!! The excavator has been working in the pits for about a month, digging up to expose new soil for exploration and digging. (Some of your registration fees goes to pay for this excavation equipment and operator). More than 750 pounds of fluorescent and daylight minerals have been brought down from Canada and from upper NYS... from the "Balmat" mining district in NY (which was another mine owned by the NJ Zinc Company, which owned the Sterling Hill mines), and from the "Long Lake" mine in Canada. This truckload of goodies has been placed on the Sterling Hill site ONLY for this dig. A version of this letter with graphics is available from <http://jimcooper.biz/uvworld2/Sterling%20Hill%20Letter%20090331.pdf> The "upper mill" area is still not open to normal tours or even any access to the public, so guests at the Sterling Hill Dig have a very unique privilege extended to them on this one day of the year. A planned "blackout tour" of the mine's lower part. maybe even going back into 2 or 3 blacked tunnels -time permitting. There will be a special animated sight & sound blast display also. Weather permitting, the Ellis Observatory will be open after dark - the 20" telescope is amazing!! We'll have door prizes donated by supporters (see their links & their websites) including special prizes just for our young diggers. Including two donated 12-volt portable ultraviolet lamps... one to be awarded to a young digger, the other for an adult digger thanks to Bill Gardner of "Way Too Cool". The day's schedule will be posted on our website and emailed to those on the list. We're still working on details. We need at least 100 registrations in order to break even on the event expenses, so far we have about 47 registered. If you have not yet signed up, there is a direct link on the main website page - and also at the bottom of the "Trip Info" page (the PayPal button). REGISTER EARLY, to guarantee the event will occur and also so that all the check-in documents and badges can be pre-printed. If possible, use the PAYPAL payment method!! If you opt to send a check, it means the check must be received by the club treasurer... must be logged in and deposited... & your registration record needs to be manually marked as paid.. + 42 cents to mail the check! The PayPal payment process charges us a small commission, which is why we have to add the \$1 fee; but that's only 58 cents more than the postage stamp -- and you are guaranteed to be registered and have all your check-in paperwork ready at the registration table. (If you don't have a PayPal account, you can still use your credit card during the PayPal process). (We do not share your private info with anyone other than the registration crew). There is no other place on Earth where some of the Sterling Hill minerals can be found; and we're the only dig at Sterling Hill where you can do a "night dig" plus see the "rainbow wall" of fluorescent rocks light by large UV lamps. Check the website at <http://www.UVworld.org> updated info. If you have ANY questions not answered by info on the website, email me at: TripMaster@Uvworld.org Include your telephone number - with "unlimited calling" I'll call you back. Your TripMaster again this year, Jeff Winkler

UPDATE

April 1, 2009 Hey Diggers.... did you catch the little "April fool" I snuck into Jeff's Tripmaster Letter last night? ;) But Jeff, being a Quality Control Inspector, wanted to be sure everything was accurate and specific; so he asked me to send out a "clarification" just so nobody gets the wrong interpretation... No, they didn't really drag "millions of tons" of soil and rocks down from NY State and Canada!!! Only about 750 pounds... but there ARE gazillions of tons of soiled dug up and exposed in the pits for you to explore and collect from... There are only THREE WEEKS left before the diggg... if you are not yet registered, and plan to come, please take care of registering right away... it's easy, from the link on the website at <http://www.UVworld.org> and PayPal takes credit cards, so you don't have to have a Paypal account to sign up. But we NEED to have at least 100 registered by the on-line registration cutoff date of 11:59pm on April 19th in order to cover the expenses of running the Diggg. So please, take care of registering right away -- it takes only a few minutes. Sent by: Jim Cooper webmaster for UVworld.org (contributed by Bill Lesniak)

WAYNE COUNTY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

MEETINGS:

Held 2nd Friday night of each month
at 7:30pm at Park Presbyterian Church basement,
Maple Court, Newark, NY

WEBSITE: www.wcgmc.org

ORGANIZED: 1973 **INC:** 1976

Affiliated with the AFML and EFMLS of Mineral
Societies since 1973.

OFFICERS: Elected at the October meeting, taking
office In November for a 2-year term.

FISCAL YEAR: Oct. 1st to Sept. 31st.

****NEW ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CLASSES AND**

DUES (due Oct 1st):

\$10.00 JUNIOR or STUDENT

(18 yrs> with no parents in the club)

\$15.00 REGULAR or ONE SINGLE ADULT (Over
age of 18 years old)

\$20.00 FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

(Includes 2 adult votes and children)

Send due, SASE with your info to:

WCGMC, P.O. Box 4, Newark, NY14513

OBJECTIVE: TO STIMULATE INTEREST IN THE EARTH
SCIENCES, IN COLLECTING AND CLASSIFICATION OF
MINERALS, AND IN THE ART OF GEM CUTTING.

The public is welcome!!

“OCTOBER SHOW” NEWS--- The Wayne County 2009 in Newark,
NY show will have set up on Oct. 2 for the show on Oct 3rd and 4th. We look
for people to do exciting displays for up to 6 cases we can use . We'll have
flyers available soon. Pass this info! Andrea Kords (315) 986-1171

100 Ultimate Things for Geology Lovers to Do!

(contributed by Bill Lesniak: <http://geotripper.blogspot.com/2008/12/100-things-youve-done-meme-geologists.html>)

21. A fjord 22. A recently formed fault scarp 23. A megabreccia 24.
An actively accreting river delta 25. A natural bridge 26. A large
sinkhole 27. A glacial outwash plain 28. A sea stack 29. A house-
sized glacial erratic 30. An underground lake or river 31. The
continental divide 32. Fluorescent and phosphorescent minerals
33. Petrified trees 34. Lava tubes 35. The Grand Canyon. All the
way down. And back. *(continued from the last newsletter and will continue
in the next newsletter)*

Please remember to sign up for
refreshments and / or door prizes
At the next meeting!!!
Invite a friend to the next Meeting.



Stamp

Wayne County Gem and Mineral Club
Rebecca Remington-editor
C/o WCGMC
P.O. Box 4
Newark, New York 14513

First class: dated
meetings and time
valued.

**First Class Member of the
Wayne County Gem and Mineral Club**