



WAYNE COUNTY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB NEWS

Volume 40 Number 2 Feb. 2012



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Greetings Rockhounds One & All,

As I take time from my winter labeling, sorting and planning, I'd like to share a few thoughts with you. The field trips are scheduled. The list is in this edition & online on the website. The big trip this year is to Thunder Bay, Ontario in July. Enhanced licenses or passports are required to travel there so now's the time to apply. Other favorites such as Alden and Herkimer couldn't be left out and we've added a different site - Penn Dixie near Buffalo – one of the best fossil collecting/educational locations in the country. As always, we're always open to new ideas and sites so don't be afraid to speak up.

The club has decided to have an annual show again. We've settled when... the second weekend in June. Nice weather. Before graduation and months away from any of the other rock & mineral shows. We're looking at renting tables & chairs vs. purchasing some. Renting a show place versus bartering the income from the gate. etc. Many questions need to be answered and the more input we have the better our decision will be. Traditionally, most clubs use these shows as their main fundraising venture. Show place, size and type will be decided this Friday. What do you think? St. Michael's School is available. The alternative is the Civic Center in Canandaigua. There are pros & cons with each location. We need to make this decision soon so please come to the meeting this coming Friday so your opinion can be counted. We open the door at 6 PM for set up and visiting. Mini miners will have a program at 6:30.

The **Best of the Best Contest** is this Friday. Bring your newly acquired rock, mineral or fossil and maybe win a prize! See details further on in this edition.

We've been talking about renting a van to go to the Albany show. [This is one example of how additional income could be used.] Cost depends on the # going. If we fill the van [15], it's \$10 a person plus \$7 entry fee. Want to go? Let me know. There are a limited number of seats available. Come to Friday's meeting, call 607-868-4649 or e-mail me at batnpill@empacc.net.

Till we meet again my friends,

Pat

President, WCGMC

Field Trips & Shows 2012

This list is not complete. Not all dates are available to us at the time of publication. As soon as we know, you will too. For details, check the club website www.wcgmc.org for updates or call Bill Chapman at 607-868-4649 or Sue Hoch at 585-394-0931 for information & field trip sign up.

February 25 Albany Show www.albanyrockclub.com

7 am Breakfast Magee Diner NYS Thruway Exit 41 8 am leave for the show

March 17 9 AM – 3PM Spring Yard Sale at Bill Chapman's house. \$1.00 a pound Get there before the weeds grow!

March 24-25 Buffalo Show <http://www.bgsny.org/Docs/BGS2012show.jpg> & Che-Hanna Show

<http://www.chehannarocks.com/show.html>

April 13-15 Mt. Pleasant Mills, St. Clair & Carbondale PA Dig. Double terminated calcite, wavellite, fluorite, fern-leaf fossils & Strontianite

April 10-15 Wildacres <http://efmls-wildacres.org> workshops in NC

April 19-22 Rochester Mineralogical Symposium -RIT – Speakers, dealers, displays, dinners & more

<http://www.rasny.org/MinSymposium/MineralSymp.htm>

May 5 Alden Meet at Francis Rd. at 9 AM. Pyritized fossils and nodules. Map will be posted nearer to this dig date.

May 19 Canandaigua area. Start at FLCC at 8 AM on County Rd. 18. Later going to Turner Rd. & Deep Run. Fossils

June 3 Alyssa Farms, Sodus. –Fossils

June 9-10 WCGMC Show - Location TBA

June 23 Tichenor Point Canandaigua Lake. Meet at County Rd. 18 at 8 AM. Fossils

July 8 Moravia NY Meet at Magee Diner at 8 AM for breakfast. Leave at 9AM. Fossils

July 14-15 Syracuse Show <http://www.gmss.us/gemshow.htm>

July 22-29 Thunder Bay Ontario - Field Trip to Amethyst and Agate quarries. Details TBA

August 11 Alden Dig Pyritized fossils and nodules

August 24 Rossi Lead Mine St. Lawrence County

August 25 & 26 St. Lawrence County Show - Field Trips to Powers Farm & Bush Farm for tourmaline

http://www.stlawrencecountyminealclub.org/show_1.html

August 30 Pulteney NY . Meet at Chapman's at 9AM. Pan for gold and look for fossils.

Sept. 1 Cameron NY Meet at 8 for breakfast in Kanona. Leave at 9AM. Fossils

Sept. 13 Herkimer Meet at Magee Diner at 7 AM. Leave at 8AM. Herkimer Diamonds

Sept. 15-16 Harrisburg PA & EFMLS Annual Show <http://www.amfed.org/efmls/>

Oct. Walworth Quarry TBA

Indian Tribes Work to Save Ancient Marks

By Pauline Arrillaga *The Associated Press*
Democrat & Chronicle 1-22-12

Tuba City, Ariz. –

In the far reaches of northern Arizona, where city sprawl gives way to majestic canyons and a holy place is defined not by steeple and cross but rather by earth and sky, lies a monument to a people's past and a symbol of the promise of peace between two long-warring Indian nations.

The Hopi people call it Tutuveni, meaning "newspaper rock," and from a distance this place is just that – a collection of sandstone boulders set on a deserted swath of rust-stained land outside Tuba City, some 80 miles from the Grand Canyon.

It is only when you step closer that you begin to understand what Tutuveni really is: a history of the Hopi Indian tribe carved into stone.

The site contains some 5,000 petroglyphs of Hopi clan symbols, the largest known collection of such symbols in the American Southwest. According to the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office, the many etchings date as far back as A.D. 1200.

On the dark desert varnish of the boulders are rows of bear claws, corn stalks, spiders, coyotes, kachinas, clouds, cranes. Some of the symbols represent various aspects of Hopi cultural life, but most are or the markings of the Hopi clans, or family systems, which are usually named for animals or other natural objects.

The Hopi made these engravings during ceremonial pilgrimages from their land to the Grand Canyon to mark the passage into adulthood for Hopi young men.

"They would stop at Tutuveni and camp there, and they would peck their clan symbols on those rocks to mark their participation in that pilgrimage. And they did this for four or five centuries at least," said Wes Bernardini, an archaeologist and professor at the University of Redlands who has been studying Tutuveni for years. "When people from the same clan would visit the site, they would put their symbols next to the precious symbol that somebody had left earlier. There's no other site that we know of like that, that shows these repeated visits."

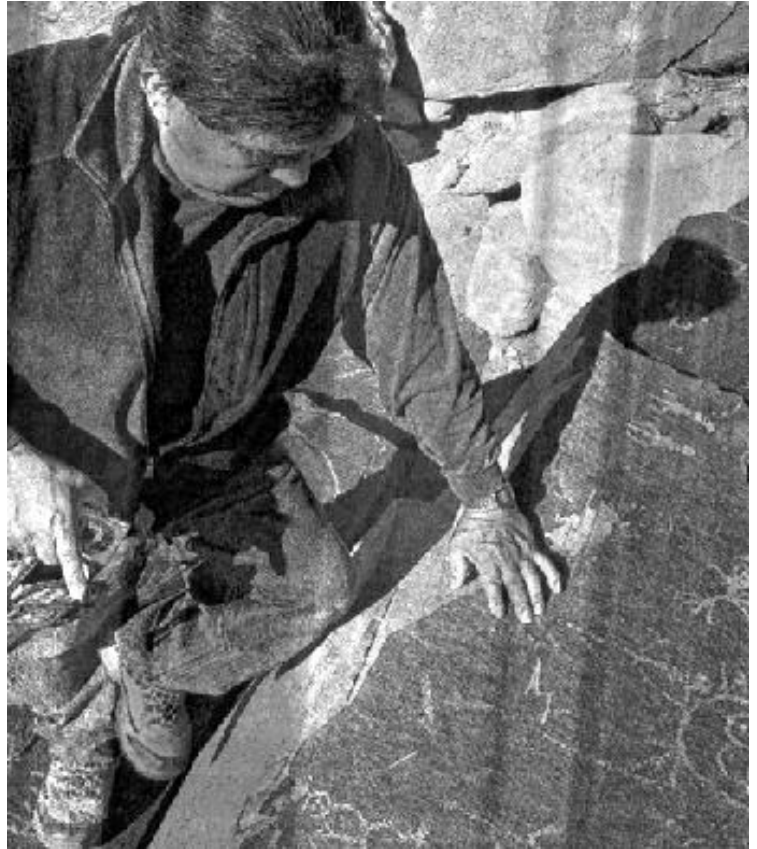
It is also a place threatened by modern-day vandals who view Tutuveni not as the sacred site and archaeological treasure that it is, but rather a canvas for their own graffiti. Scattered among the many ancient impressions are the markings of lovers, history buffs and random visitors looking to leave their mark.

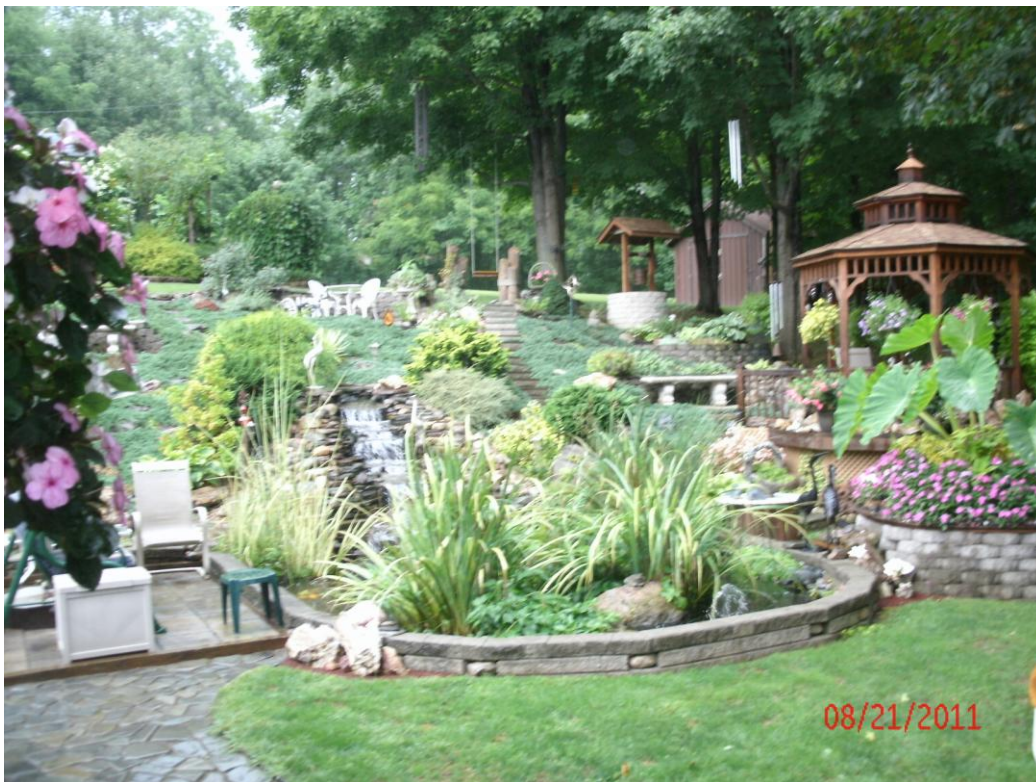
But a small group of researchers, archeologists and preservationists from both Hopi and Navajo [who actually own the land] tribes came together in common cause: to save this important cultural resource.

"It's something that's really unique and very special to the Hopi," said Ron Maldonado, supervisory archaeologist for the Navajo Nation. "In my mind, it didn't matter who it belonged to. It needed to be protected, and that was it."

Today, a chain-link fence stretches around the rock site, with only a narrow opening to allow for visitors on foot. Hidden cameras capture the movement of people and animals. Some beer bottles still litter the ground, but far fewer than before.

Lee Wayne Lomayestewa of the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office comes out regularly to check the site. The fence, complete in 2010, has helped, he said. But educating both outsiders and the Navajo and Hopi people who live near Tutuveni about the importance of the site is the only real way to help preserve the place – and allow the past to live on.





Linda & Les Schmidtgal's' garden cascade – location of our last club picnic.



2012'S BEST OF YOUR BEST

FOSSIL, MINERAL, & JEWELRY COMPETITION

BRING YOUR 2011 BOUGHT OR SELF-COLLECTED SPECIMEN FOR
JUDGING at the Feb. 10th Meeting

Categories:

(1) Best Mineral (2) Best Fossil (3) Best Jewelry or Craft

2 Divisions: Adult & Youth

Certificates will be awarded for the top 3 specimens in each category and division.

Items must be labeled with name of mineral or fossil,
from what locality, and any other interesting facts.

Do NOT put your name on the label!

National Limestone Quarry for Sale

By Pat Chapman

A recent conversation with Eric Stahl revealed that the family-owned quarries near Mt. Pleasant Mills and Middleburg, PA are up for sale. "This may be the last year rockhounds may be able to collect there if a new owner follows suit with the "no entry" policy most quarries follow." Eric says. If he continues in his current job with a new owner, he will continue to advocate for an "Open Door" policy for rock clubs like ours.



The Mt. Pleasant Mills quarry is known to

produce Wavellite - a rare, green or yellow, sunburst-patterned mineral; double terminated, clear Calcite; Fluorite; & Strontianite as well as limestone. Strontianite is named after the element strontium in its chemical formula $[SrCO_3]$. Large, individual Strontianite crystals are very rare and sought after by mineral collectors. It's a fragile mineral and care should be exercised when handling. This was the first thing I found there so limited mobility took a back seat to a sharp eye that day. Getting it home intact, was another matter.

We have a dig planned for this location in April & hope that most of you can participate in this adventure to one of Pennsylvania's true treasures. Eric is interested in Herkimer Diamonds which remind him of his youth when their dazzling beauty set the foundation for his life-long interest in mineral collecting. If you have any Herks that you'd like to share, he'll be there to greet us the morning of our dig and would like to see your specimens & hear your story.

Eric's also authored a book last fall, now available through Amazon.com called "*America's Last Warning*" an end-of-time prophesy. Does the book of Revelation seem confusing? Like a puzzle with missing pieces? Those pieces can be found in the Old Testament books of the prophets. America's Last Warning provides answers to your questions and serves as a tool to help you comprehend Bible prophecy and what it means to fear for our time. Only hard cover and Kindle editions are currently out. If you bring a copy with you, he'll be glad to sign & discuss it.



Wayne County

Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

Meetings held 2nd Friday of each month
Mini-Miner Program at 6:30 P.M.
Regular Program & meeting at 7:00 P.M. at
Park Presbyterian Church
Maple Court, Newark, NY 14513

WEBSITE: www.wcgmc.org

Organized: 1973 Incorporated: 1976

Objective: To stimulate interest in earth sciences,
collecting, classification of minerals, & in the art of gem
cutting.

Fiscal Year: Oct. 1st to Sept. 30th Dues: Due Oct. 1st.

Juniors or students [18 yr.> w/o parent in club] \$10.00

Single Adult [over 18 years old] \$15.00

Family Membership [includes 2 adult votes & kids] \$20.00

Send dues to WCGMC

PO Box 4, Newark, NY 14513

Affiliated with the American Federation of

Mineralogical Societies [A.F.M.S.] www.amfed.org The

Eastern Federation of Mineralogical

& Lapidary Societies [EFMLS] www.efmls.org

The Eastern Field Trip Alliance [E.F.T.A.] www.efta.biz



WCGMC –
Always looking For New
Places to Dig!

Upcoming Events

February

10 6:30PM Mini-Miners Soapstone Carving

7PM WCGMC Monthly Meeting

“Best Of Your Best Contest”

25 WCGMC Field Trip Capital District Show.

Sign up with Pat Chapman at batnpill@empacc.net
or 607-868-4649.

7:00 AM Breakfast at Magee Diner

8:00 AM Leave for Albany

March

9 WCGMC Monthly Meeting

24-25 44th Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the
Buffalo Geological Society. The Fairgrounds, Hamburg, NY.

<http://www.bgsny.org/Docs/BGS2012show.jpg>

24-25 43rd Annual Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club Rock & Mineral
Club show Athens, PA www.chehannarocks.com

April

10-15 Wildacres <http://efmls-wildacres.org>

19-22 Rochester Mineralogical Symposium

<http://www.rasny.org/MinSymposium/MineralSymp.htm>

First Class Dated Meetings & Time Valued

The Public is Always Welcome



Wayne County Gem and Mineral Club
P.O. Box 4
Newark, New York 14513