



# WAYNE COUNTY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB NEWS

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**2010-2011  
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Photos by Pat Chapman

Helping scouts begin collections, study geology basics, and fulfill Scout requirements for Geology/Geologist belts loops and pins were the basis of our Cub Scout program on May 14<sup>th</sup> at Sampson State Park as Dave Millis demonstrates above.

The weather threatened the festivities but a few light drops didn't bother anyone thanks to the tent the Scouts provided for us. This gathering was part of a larger activity set up for- and-by the Regional Boy Scout Council. Scouts camped and took part in a multitude of activities to help them fulfill badge requirements. It looked like a large army encampment - one not hard to miss - when we pulled in at 11 PM with our trailer the night before. Bill Chapman's trailer made a great wind block for the tent.

Bill Lesniak headed our program and coordinated things with the Boy Scout Council. The biggest hit was his demonstration how pressure builds in a volcano until something's gotta give. Lots of fun for young and old alike.

# President's Message for June



Greetings! The rainy season is over [hopefully] and the hurricane season begins. We're going to avoid the South but we never let these weather occurrences bother us anyway. Into each of our lives, a little rain must fall. The Board of Directors and General Membership have been discussing some new avenues for the club lately. We're continuing our participation at Newarkfest this year. Our presence in the community and this fundraising opportunity are positive avenues we are going to pursue. We're setting up in front of Park Presbyterian Church again. The club is putting up the tent, tables, and sluice on Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> before the meeting. We'll prepare some bags for the sluice after Kim Padina's presentation. Members are encouraged to bring some specimens for these bags and lend a hand setting up. Members may also bring some rock-related items for sale. These items should be inventoried and priced with your initials and any special instructions for price negotiations. Ten percent of the sale will go to the club, 8% goes for sales tax and the remainder will go back to the member so price your items accordingly. Evil exists in the world so if you can show up and help customers and lend your eyes, it'll deter those who would steal from you. The inventory list will help us account for your items and sales more efficiently so it is a requirement. If you have items you wish to donate for the straw draw prizes, please bring them to Friday night's meeting. Our table setup will be changed to the one we'll use at the Syracuse Show next month so this will be a dry run for that event. If you have a long table or card table we can use at Newarkfest, call me at 607-868-4649 to coordinate that effort. Parking will be difficult since Main St. is closed down so approach & park on East Ave. or the church parking lot.

A couple of good field trips are on the calendar. Tichenor Point is a location we've never been to before. Sue Hoch has arranged with Mr. Kellogg for an exploratory dig on his property on Canandaigua Lake. Remember the Kellogg Pancake House? I enjoyed more than one Sunday morning breakfast there. Check page 6 for more details.

Alden NY is at the end of the month. We chose Sunday because Tim McGraw is performing at Darien Lake on Sat. and the traffic will be horrendous! We have a number of folks signed up already. Hope you can make this dig also! Details sent out previously. See pg. 6 or the [www.wcgmc.org](http://www.wcgmc.org) for more info.

Is there construction near you? Road work exposing new rock formations? These are some places we should check out. Let a Board member know or talk with the foreman or landowner. We're always looking for new places to dig.

Hope to see YOU soon!

Pat



## Minutes of WCGMC Monthly Meeting 5/13/11

The monthly meeting began after a program on radioactive rocks given by Dave Millis. Discussion of what the club wants to do with Glenn Weiler's pyramid piece he created. A motion to buy it for \$50 was made by Bill Lesniak. Seconded by Terry Wilson. Passed. It is the club's intention to present it to Mike Bagney of the Dolomite Quarry in Walworth this fall in thanks for his generosity in opening his quarry to us.

The **Treasurer's Report** for March was presented and is on file for audit. Approved as presented. The Treasurer's Report for April is still being prepared. It was noted that the yearly rent to the church for \$125.00 needed to be paid. Dave Millis made a motion to pay this. Seconded by Glenn Weiler. Passed.

### Field Trips

Bancroft Trip discussed. Dave Millis gave the following plans -

Thurs, July 21<sup>st</sup> Travel to Bancroft. PM dig nearby for green apatite.

Friday July 22<sup>nd</sup> Bear Lake and Craig Mont. For sapphire crystals that are either 4" long or 2" in diameter - but never both.

Sat. Marmora Quarry for a lg. assortment of minerals. You need 5 safety items for here: hard hat, safety glasses, gloves, safety vest and steel-toed shoes.

Sunday: local mineral show [Bill Chapman won the door prize 5 minutes after getting there!]

Monday : to be announced. Tuesday: Travel back home.

It was discussed whether this trip is open to other clubs and it was decided that it was a Wayne County Club dig only. If others want to come, they need to join.

The trip to Ohio has been canceled and a fossil dig at Flint Creek has been added on July 31<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 PM. There is always water here so be prepared. Terry Wilson will lead this trip.

Next month is Newarkfest. On Friday June 10<sup>th</sup>, we'll meet at 5 PM to set up tables and our program at 7 PM is on wirewrapping. This set up to sell rocks is a forerunner for Syracuse. Ken Rowe reported that the church has approved our set up on church grounds for Newarkfest. We need to make sluice bags so members need to bring small specimens on Friday night for this project. The Straw Draw will be in use. Donations to the case are needed. Raffle tickets for the fossil from Middleport NY will begin. Tickets will cost \$3 a piece or 2 for \$5. Bill Lesniak will be preparing those tickets. They'll be sold from June 10<sup>th</sup> to July 10<sup>th</sup> and awarded at 3PM at the Syracuse Show. Jerry D. made the motion to do so & Ken Rowe seconded it. Passed. Individuals may sell at this show through the club. Ten percent will go to the club and sales tax will be paid. The remainder goes to the individual. A list of your items is needed as well as initials & prices on your items. If you will negotiate price, please note.

We will be using a "U" shaped formation at the Syracuse Show. Volunteers to man the tables are needed. Individuals who wish to sell at Syracuse Show - Ken Rowe, Glenn Weiler, Bill Lesniak, Jerry Donahue, Bill & Pat Chapman, & Sue Hoch. We want our members to participate in selling their rocks or crafts. They need to make a list of their items. Ten percent of their sales will go to the club. Sales tax will be paid and the remainder will go to the owner.

Dave Millis brought a dish to pass - one to a person - rocks but it wasn't candy.

Thank you Dave for your program and gifts! Motion to adjourn made by Glenn W. & seconded by Laurie Frey. Passed.

Submitted Eva Jane Weiler

# Middleport NY Trilobite Tail Raffle



To benefit the Wayne County Gem & Mineral Club

**\$3.00 a ticket                      2 for \$5.00**

Ticket Sales start June 10<sup>th</sup> and continue until July 10<sup>th</sup>.

Drawing held at the Syracuse Show at 3 PM.

See Board Members for tickets.

Many thanks to Kent Smith for this donation!

## July 31, 2011 Field Trip to Flint Creek

Led by Terry Wilson

Find the usual assortment of local fossils - maybe not a T-Rex but a cephalopod or brachiopod might be in the cards! Meet south of the water tower just off Rt. 488

south of Clifton Springs at 1 PM. Bring your PPE, bug spray, water shoes, rock hammer, collecting device & something to dig with. Something to drink & a snack always hits the spot.



## 20 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT CRYSTALS

by Rebecca Coffey *Discover Magazine* may 2011 pg 79

1. It's all about the rhythm: Crystals are repeating, three-dimensional arrangements of atoms, ions, or molecules.
  2. Almost any solid material can crystallize – even DNA. Chemists from New York University, Purdue University, and the Argonne National Laboratory recently created DNA crystals large enough to see with the naked eye. The work could have applications in nanoelectronics and drug development.
  3. One thing that is *not* a crystal” leaded “crystal” ball, like the vases that so many newlyweds dread. (Glass consists of atoms or molecules all in a jumble, not in the well-patterned order that defines a crystal.)
  4. The oldest known piece of our planet's surface are 4.4 billion-year-old zircon crystals from the Jack Hills of western Australia.
  5. The center of the earth was once thought to be a single, 1,500-mile-wide iron crystal. Seismic studies now show that the inner core is not a single solid but perhaps an aggregate of smaller crystals.
  6. Tiny silicate crystals, which need high temperatures to form have been found inside icy comets from the solar system's distant chilly edges. Powerful flares from the sun may have provided the necessary heat.
  7. In Chihuahua, Mexico, a limestone cavern 1,000 feet below the surface contains the largest crystals in the world: glittering gypsum formations up to 6 feet in diameter and 36 feet long, weighing as much as 55 tons.
  8. You may be sitting in a gypsum cave right now: It is a primary component of drywall.
  9. Are the streets of New York paved with gold? No; but the bedrock schist beneath them is studded with opal, beryl, chrysoberyl, garnet and three kinds of tourmaline.
  10. In 1885 a garnet weighing nearly 10 pounds was discovered beneath 35<sup>th</sup> Street near Broadway, close to today's Macy's store. According to urban lore, it was unearthed either during subway construction or by a laborer digging a sewer.
  11. Cheaper by the pound: The so-called Subway Garnet was sold within a day, reportedly for \$100 – just \$2,300 in today's dollars.
  12. The unit of measure for gemstones had humble beginnings. “Carat” comes from the Greek *keration*, or “carob bean,” which was used as a standard for weighing small quantities. It is equivalent to 200 milligrams, or about 0.007 ounce.
  13. When Richard Burton bought Elizabeth Taylor the heart-shaped Taj-Mahal diamond, he is said to have bragged, “It has so many carats, it's almost a turnip.”
  14. A “fancy intense pink” diamond recently set a world record when it was purchased at auction for \$46 million by a London jeweler.
  15. The Cullinan diamond is the largest known gem diamond – or actually, *was*. It weighed 3,106 carats, or nearly a pound and a half, when it was discovered in South Africa in 1905, but it has since been cut into more than 100 stones.
  16. The Cullinan stones, all flawless, are now part of the British Regalia, The largest, a 530-carat behemoth, is set in the English scepter.
  17. For the rest of us, there is crystallized sodium chloride, otherwise known as salt. We are literally awash in it: If the water were evaporated from the world's oceans, we'd be left with 4.5-million cubic miles of salt, equivalent to a cube measuring 165 miles on each side.
  18. Another crystal for commoners: sugar. Each American eats an average of more than 130 pound of it each year.
  19. As if sugar's ties to obesity and tooth decay weren't enough, new research out of Imperial College London suggests that it contributes to high blood pressure, too.
  20. Snow is near-pure crystallized water, but when it collects on the ground it acts as a reservoir for atmospheric pollutants such as mercury and soot. So you probably shouldn't eat the *white* snow either.
- Submitted by Ken Rowe WCGMC

### Dig For Dinosaurs – South Dakota School of Mines a& Technology, various locations

Popular Science [www.popsci.com](http://www.popsci.com)

The tectonic forces that raised the Rocky Mountains also buried and preserved many dinosaurs. This makes the American West a playground for today's fossil-hunters. The Field Paleo program at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology's Museum of Geology runs several digs and welcomes visitors to participate in trips of four to 11 days. Options include hunting for Ice Age fossils in Oregon, stegosaurus in Wyoming, and marine reptiles along the Missouri River in South Dakota. Working with paleontologists, you'll learn dinosaur classification and anatomy, and map and preserve your findings.

**Trip Tip:** If you want to look for fossils in other areas, head to [www.pasthorizons.com](http://www.pasthorizons.com) for more digs around the world.

**Info:** Trips run May to July; \$600 - \$1,500; [www.museum.sdsmt.edu/field-paleo](http://www.museum.sdsmt.edu/field-paleo) submitted by Don Schiltz

## Wayne County Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

Meetings held 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.wcgm.org](http://www.wcgm.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. 1<sup>st</sup> to Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>

*Dues:* Due Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>.

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](http://www.amfed.org)

The Eastern Federation of Mineralogical  
& Lapidary Societies

[EFMLS] [www.amfed.org/efmls](http://www.amfed.org/efmls)

&

The Eastern Field Trip Alliance [E.F.T.A.] [www.efta.biz](http://www.efta.biz)

# Upcoming Events

## June 2011

**10 5 PM Set Up for Newarkfest** – Volunteers needed to set up tent  
and make sluice bags  
**7PM WCGMC Meeting** Program – Kim Padina demonstrates her  
wirewrapping skills

**11 Newarkfest 8 AM We'll set up our merchandise & displays.**  
Contact Pat at [batnpill@empacc.net](mailto:batnpill@empacc.net) or 607-868-4649

**18 WCGMC Field Trip – Tichenor Point** Meet at FLCC South  
parking lot Rte. 364& County Road 18, 8:00 AM (near south entrance)  
Contact: Bill Chapman at [batnpill@empacc.net](mailto:batnpill@empacc.net)

phone 607-868-4649 for further info. & sign up. Crinoids, trilobites and  
brachiopods oh my!

**26 WCGMC Field Trip – Alden, NY 9 AM** Meet behind John &  
Mary's on Rt. 20 [Main Drag in Alden] across from Dollar General. Expect  
to walk ½ mile, water, and mud in search of pyritized fossils. Contact: Bill  
Chapman at 607-868-4649 [batnpill@empacc.net](mailto:batnpill@empacc.net) for further info. & sign up.

## July 2011

**6-10:** Syracuse, NY - **EFMLS/AFMS Convention & Show** hosted by  
the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse. NYS Fairgrounds, Syracuse.  
AFMS meetings July 7-8; EFMLS Annual Meeting July 8;  
Show: July 9 -10

**8 4 PM We'll set up our merchandise & displays for Syracuse Show**  
**9-10 Syracuse Show** – volunteers needed for our booth. Free  
entrance to the show in exchange for a couple of hours at our booth.  
Call Pat at 607-868-4649 for info & sign up.

**21-26 WCGMC Field Trip – Bancroft, Ontario Canada** Contact  
Dave Millis at 570-553-2302 for further information & sign up.

**31 WCGMC Field Trip - Flint Creek 1 PM** Terry Wilson 315-462-9222

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



# The Public is always welcome!

First Class: Dated, Meetings & Time Valued