

# Wayne County Gem & Mineral Club News

January 2012 Volume 40 #1

## Let the Rockhounding Begin!



Linda Schmidtgall & Bill Chapman  
It's always a good day for digging.



One in the hand is worth 2 in the pit.



Back Row: Ken St. John, Bill Chapman  
Front Row: Rebecca St. John, Paul Kellogg, Isaac  
St. John, Jeremiah Hubbard, Pat Chapman



Dave Millus  
Roc Doc



Tichenor Point Crinoid Calyx



Field Trip to Sterling Hill NJ

## President's Message



Happy New Year Everyone!

This *Going Green* fad is really catching on...even winter's doing it. Some of you may remember the old WCGMC cruise mobile shown above. But times change and so must we. At the Chapman homestead, instead of paper towels, I'm recycling older washcloths for cleaning purposes. That doesn't mean that we've figured a way around buying bulk-size paper products. Paper plates are so much easier to wash. Looking outside, Bill's thinking he's going to have to mow the lawn soon. Maybe we should get a goat.

The Board of Directors got together last Sunday to start planning things to do this year. First, we picked a good restaurant and planned a working lunch. Now, that was a good idea but everybody in Newark had the same idea so we caught up on what happened over the holidays and checked out who's driving what. You know ... gossiped. The Rowe's graciously offered their home so we could settle down and get down to some work.

The 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Wayne County Rock & Mineral Club's Incorporation. Ideas were kicked around about what to do about this. Shirts, Pins, Extensive Field Trip, Kazoos? The world is our oyster. Open up our minds and speak out about how we want to commemorate our birth. The exact date is still being investigated at the time of publication. What that turns up will be reported on Friday. I'm putting together a questionnaire so that we can know what direction we should be going. Please drop me a line with your ideas or come to the meeting this Friday and help plan our field trip schedule.

That leads me into our program for this Friday – It's planning our field trips for this year. We usually have this at another meeting in January but we're trying to save time & gas so we're doing it now. For those who get bored or could care less, we have several DVDs available for viewing – the recently acquired Wildacres DVD might be a good choice.

Got to go and put on my next hat and GET THIS NEWSLETTER OUT!

See you Friday,

Pat

P.S. Did you catch the replacement Prius behind me?

## You Might be a Geologist If...

You think the primary function of road cuts is tourist attractions.

You own more pieces of quartz than underwear.

You associate the word "hard" with a value on the Mohs scale instead of "work".

The rockpile in your garage is taller than you are.

You have a strong opinion as to whether pieces of concrete are properly called "rocks".

The local university's geology department requests permission to hold field Trips in your back yard.

You associate the name "Franklin" with New Jersey instead of "Ben".

There's amethyst in your aquarium.

Your wife has ever had to ask you to move flats of rocks out of the tub so she could take a bath.

Your spelling checker has a vocabulary that includes the words "polymorph" and "pseudomorph".

Your children are named Rocky, Jewel, and Beryl.

You were the only member of the group who spent their time looking at cathedral walls through a pocket magnifier during your trip to Europe.

They won't give you time off from work to attend the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show and you go anyway.

You begin fussing because the light strips you installed on your bookshelves aren't full spectrum.

You've ever purchased an individual, unfaceted rock, regardless of the price.

You've ever spent more than ten dollars for a book about rocks.

You shouted "Obsidian!" to a theater full of movie-goers while watching "The Shawshank Redemption".

The polished slab on your bola tie is six inches in diameter.

You find yourself compelled to examine individual rocks in driveway gravel.

The USGS identifies your collection as a major contributing factor to isostasy in your state.

You know the location of every rock shop within a 100 mile radius of your home.

When they haven't seen you for a week, the shop owners send you get well cards.

You're retired and still thinking of adding another room to your house.

Your idea of a "quiet, romantic evening at home" involves blue mineral tack and thumbnail boxes.

You're planning on using a pick and shovel while you're on vacation.

You can point out where Tsumeb is on a world globe.

You think Franklin, New Jersey might be a cool place to go on a vacation.

You associate the word "saw" with diamonds instead of "wood".

You begin wondering what a complete set of the Mineralogical Record is worth.

When you find out, you actually consider paying it.

You've fabricated a backpack for your dog.

You've installed more than one mineralogical database program on your computer.

The baggage handlers at the airport know you by name and refuse to help with your luggage.

You receive a letter from the county informing you a landfill permit is required to put anymore rocks on your property.

Your internet home page has pictures of your rocks.

There's a copy of Dana's Manual next to your toilet.

You still think pet rocks are a pretty neat idea.

You get excited when you discover a hardware store that stocks 16 pound sledge hammers and 5 foot long pry bars.

You debate for months on the internet concerning the relative advantages and drawbacks of vibratory verses drum tumblers.

Your employer has asked you not to bring any more rocks to the office until they have time to reinforce the floor.

You decide not to get married because you'd rather keep the rock!!!



**Field Trips –**  
**Bring your coffee and plan them.**  
**Friday, 1/13/12 7 PM**  
**Newark Presbyterian Church**

**Advice from the Elders: Five Rules to Remember.**

1. Money cannot buy happiness but it's more comfortable to cry in a CORVETTE than on a bicycle.
2. Forgive your enemy but remember the blanket-blank's name.
3. If you help someone when they are in trouble, they will remember you when they're in trouble again.
4. Many people are alive only because it's illegal to shoot them.
5. Alcohol does not solve any problems but then neither does milk.

THERE YOU HAVE IT.

**ROCK PALS**

When you were in school, you may have been partnered with kids from schools in towns and countries far-and-wide to become Pen Pals in a letter-exchange program. Patricia Egolf of the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, New York, has instituted a new spin on this for junior rockhounds, namely, establishing a "Rock Pals" program in conjunction with our AFMS Future Rockhounds of America program.

Kids love the different rocks, minerals, and fossils to be found across our great nation, but they can't always afford to buy them or to travel to collect them. But how wonderful it would be for juniors in a club to band together to collect local samples to trade with juniors in other clubs across the country! With that in mind, Patricia has volunteered to establish and oversee "Rock Pals." A club would gather between 20 and 25 local specimens in sizes small enough for all to fit in a \$10.95 flat-rate box available at the post office and, after making arrangements with another club, each would mail a box to each other.

Clubs interested in participating should contact either Patricia Egolf (phone 315-471-1758, email Pjegardens@aol.com) or, as a back-up, Jim Brace-Thompson (phone 805-659-3577, email jbraceth@roadrunner.com). They'll be building and maintaining a list of clubs interested in participating that your club can contact and start the ball rolling. As a start, we've already heard from clubs in New York, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, and Washington. so we have all four corners of the nation covered. with a few points between!

# Plant-Eating Dinosaur Discovered in Antarctica

*ScienceDaily* (Dec. 19, 2011) —

For the first time, the presence of large bodied herbivorous dinosaurs in Antarctica has been recorded. Until now, remains of sauropoda -- one of the most diverse and geographically widespread species of herbivorous dinosaurs -- had been recovered from all continental landmasses, except Antarctica. Dr. Ignacio Alejandro Cerda, from CONICET in Argentina, and his team's identification of the remains of the sauropod dinosaur suggests that advanced titanosaurs (plant-eating, sauropod dinosaurs) achieved a global distribution at least by the Late Cretaceous\*.

Their work has just been published online in Springer's journal *Naturwissenschaften - The Science of Nature*.

Sauropoda is the second most diverse group of dinosaurs, with more than 150 recognized species. It includes the largest terrestrial vertebrates that ever existed. Although many sauropod remains have been discovered in North and South America, Africa, Asia, Australia and Europe, there is no previous record of sauropoda in Antarctica.

Other important dinosaur discoveries have been made in Antarctica in the last two decades -- principally in the James Ross Basin. Dr. Cerda and colleagues report the first finding of a sauropod dinosaur from this continent and provide a detailed description of an incomplete middle-tail vertebra, recovered from James Ross Island. The specific size and morphology of the specimen, including its distinctive ball and socket articulations, lead the authors to identify it as an advanced titanosaur.

These titanosaurs originated during the Early Cretaceous and were the predominant group of sauropod dinosaurs until the extinction of all non-bird dinosaurs at the end of the Cretaceous. Although they were one of the most widespread and successful species of sauropod dinosaurs, their origin and dispersion are not completely understood.

The authors conclude: "Our discovery, and subsequent report, of these sauropod dinosaur remains from Antarctica improves our current knowledge of the dinosaurian faunas during the Late Cretaceous on this continent."\*The Cretaceous Period spanned 99.6-65.5 million years ago, and ended with the extinction of the dinosaurs.

\*Note: The Cretaceous Period spanned 99.6-65.5 million years ago, and ended with the extinction of the dinosaurs.

1. Ignacio A. Cerda, Ariana Paulina Carabajal, Leonardo Salgado, Rodolfo A. Coria, Marcelo A. Reguero, Claudia P. Tambussi, Juan J. Moly. **The first record of a sauropod dinosaur from Antarctica.** *Naturwissenschaften*, 2011; DOI: [10.1007/s00114-011-0869-x](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00114-011-0869-x)



# 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.wcgmc.org](http://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. 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.efcta.biz](http://www.efcta.biz)



**WCGMC -**  
**Always looking For**  
**New Places to Dig!**

## Upcoming Events

### January

#### 13 WCGMC Monthly Meeting

6:00 Set up. Refreshment help needed.

6:30 PM Mini-Miners: Map Reading in Geology

7:00 PM Monthly Meeting

Program A: Field Trip Planning for 2012

Program B: Wildacres DVD

**22 Moosic, PA** - Annual Auction sponsored by the Mineralogical Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Moosic Presbyterian Church, 625 Main St; Moosic, PA.

### February

#### 10 WCGMC Monthly Meeting

**25 WCDMC Field Trip Capital District Show.** Sign up with

Pat Chapman at [batnpill@empacc.net](mailto: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.

**24-25** 43rd Annual Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club Rock & Mineral Club show Athens, PA [www.chehannarocks.com](http://www.chehannarocks.com)

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