



# WAYNE COUNTY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB NEWS

VOLUME 34 No. 3 March 2008



## **OFFICERS:**

### **PRESIDENT:**

Stan Griffin 315-462-3282  
[wb2auw@yahoo.com](mailto:wb2auw@yahoo.com)

### **VICE PRESIDENT:**

Jerold Donahue  
315-548-8085

### **SECRETARY:**

Rebecca Remington  
[begster65@yahoo.com](mailto:begster65@yahoo.com)

### **TREASURER/**

### **MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:**

Bill Lesniak 315-483-8061  
[dirtman300@aol.com](mailto:dirtman300@aol.com)

### **PROGRAM \*:**

Andrea Kords 315-926-1401

### **HOSPITALITY:**

Pat Chapman 607-868-4649

### **FIELD TRIP CHAIR:**

Bill Chapman 607-868-4649

### **DIRECTORS:**

Ken and Roxanne Rowe  
315-331-1438

Pat Chapman 607-868-4649

Terry Wilson 315-462-9222

### **PAST PRESIDENT:**

Dave Kords 315-986-1171

### **EDITOR:**

Rebecca Remington  
315-926-1155


### **Mini-Miners:**

Bill Chapman 607-868-4649

Stephanie Mason  
585-265-9183

And also Heather  
Bournemann

## **President's Message**

Hey- it's almost springtime in Western New York, but not quite yet. While you are waiting for spring, stuck inside, and can't get out—here some things to do: Check out the club's very own and owned website at <http://www.wcgmc.org> 'cause you will be amazed. It is a work in progress, but we are making lots of progress! (Thanks to all of the volunteers working on it, and a thank you to The American Hobby Shop for helping out the club with years of altruistic help and support regarding the old website.) Make a donation to AFMS' larship Foundation (c/o Bob Livingston, 59 Ely Dr. Fayetteville, NY 13066). Write a letter to your local House and Senate Representative and ask them what their position is about the bill called H.R.554, also referred to as S.320 or Paleontological Resources Preservation Act. The AFMS position is that this bill could make it tough on our fellow fossil-dogs. Lastly, join us in planning more road trips and digs.  Your President, Stan

## **Bragging Rights (aka: "Mine is Bigger Than Yours") Contest Winners!**

Contributed by Ken Rowe

The "Bragging Rights" contest held at our February meeting was well attended. Most categories had several entries and the variety was extensive. The judges were Don Schiltz, Heather Bournemann, and Stephanie Mason. The judges carefully examined all entries and declared the following the persons as winners:

### **Category: Minerals Anywhere (self-collected)**

Gold: Terry Wilson (fluorite) Silver: Ken Rowe (apatite)  
Bronze: Jerry Donahue (quartz)

### **Category: Minerals of New York (self-collected)**

Gold: Stan Griffin (blue celestite) Silver: Bill Lesniak (mica biotite)  
Bronze: Roxanne Rowe (galena)

### **Category: Fossils (self-collected)**

Gold: Loren Patterson (eurypterid) Silver: Bill Lesniak (brachiopod)  
Bronze: Terry Wilson (cephalopod)

### **Category: Purchased Mineral (anywhere)**

Gold: Alex Bournemann (vanadinite) Silver: Terry Wilson (Pyrite)  
Bronze: Alex Bournemann (malachite)

### **Category: Jewelry**

Gold: Cathy Patterson (Serpentine Necklace) Silver: Roxanne Rowe (Rose Quartz necklace) Bronze: Ken Rowe (native copper pendant)

### **Category: Purchased Fossil (anywhere) \* one entry**

Gold: Bill Chapman (dinosaur tracks)

According to Ken Rowe, by overwhelming consensus, the judges awarded the honor of "Special Mention" to Bill Chapman for his display of the Rock "Beehive" Arrangement. Ken Rowe wishes "to thank the judges and all who participated".

**Visit A Show in 2008** **MARCH 1-2: Newark (Stanton), DE** - 45th Annual Earth Science Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Delaware Mineralogical Society. Delaware Technical & Community College, Churchmans Rd (Rt 58) (I-95, exit 4B), Newark (Stanton), DE. **MARCH 8-9: Clifton, NJ** - Annual Clifton Gem & Mineral Show Sponsored by the North Jersey Mineralogical Society. Pope John Paul II Elementary School, 775 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ located 220 yards north of the intersection of Route 3 & Route 46. Saturday 10-5 and Sunday 10-5. Contact Bob Horn (908) 813-0808 e-mail: Mineraldog@Comcast.net **MARCH 15-16: Gaithersburg, MD** (<http://www.glmcmc.com/show.shtml>) - Annual Gem and Mineral Show sponsored by the Gem, Lapidary & Mineral Society of Montgomery Co., MD. Montgomery Co. Fairgrounds, Gaithersburg, MD. **MARCH 15-16: Hicksville, NY** - 36th Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by The Island Rockhounds. Holy Family School Auditorium, Hicksville, NY. **MARCH 28-30: Elkridge, MD** - Atlantic Micromounters Conference. MHA Conference Center, Elkridge, MD. Contact S. Weinberger <cscrystals2@verizon.net> for registration. **MARCH 29-30: Sayre, PA** (<http://www.che-hanna.org/>)- 29th Annual Rock & Mineral Show sponsored by the Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club. Athens Twp. Volunteer Fire Hall, 211 Herrick Av; Sayre, PA **APRIL 26-27: Franklin, NJ** (<http://www.uvworld.org/>)- 36th Annual New Jersey Earth Science Association Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Franklin-Ogdensburg Mineralogical Society, NJ Earth Science Assoc. & Sterling Hill Mining Museum. Franklin School/Washington Av; Franklin, NJ. **MAY 24: Towson, MD** - Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Society. NEW LOCATION: Ruhl Armory, 1035 York Rd (MD 45 just off I-695); Towson, Maryland. **HOPE TO SEE YOU ON THE ROAD! CARPOOL and / or CONVOY!**

### **Charter Member of WCGMC Dies**

(An obituary and comment contributed by Marion Wheaton)

Lasher, John P. (Sr.) of Marion, NY, entered to rest on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at the age of 96. Predeceased by his wife, Margaret and a son, John Jr. Survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Marilyn and Ted LeClair; grandchildren Margaret (Peter) Martens, Ann (Michael) Filiatreau, Alan (Sue) LeClair, Gary (Denise) LeClair, Barbara (David) Riordon, Tracy (Marshall) Brooks, 11 great-grandchildren, 3 great-great-grandchildren, a sister, Velda Rodamer, several nieces and nephews. Donations may be made to the Wayne County Nursing Home, c/o Activities Department, 1529 Nye Road, Lyons, NY 14489. Marion Wheaton commented that the Wayne County Gem and Mineral Club held many meetings in John Lasher's log cabin home in the country on Reeves Road, Marion. John was a charter member of the WCGMC. Farewell, our gem of a friend and fellow rockhound!

### **WANTED:**

Wayne County Historian, Peter Evans, invites an interested member or members of the WCGMC to represent the fields of geology and geography on a local level to the WHO round-table discussions. No formal experience needed. Bring a brown-bag lunch for a casual meeting at noon... Call the Historian's office during weekday business hours for more info. The next WHO meeting is April 16, 2008 at the Galen Historical Society's Brick Church building on the Clyde, NY...

### **WCGMC Literature List:**

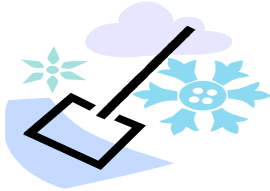
Ken Rowe has compiled the following list of club owned literature (books) that have been stored at his and Roxanne's home. Members are welcome to borrow any of the following titles. Contact Ken Rowe for details or to add donations to the WCGMC collection!

**1.** Rock Collecting near Bancroft, Ontario, Canada **2.** Petoskey Stone **3.** Rhinestone Jewelry **4.** Guide to Mineral Names **5.** Mineralogy of Arizona **6.** This Sculptured Earth **7.** Jade (autographed copy) **8.** Exhibiting **9.** Judging **10.** Technical Literature on Mines + Restoration of the Same in West Virginia **11.** Cabochon Cutting and Polishing **12.** AMFS Safety Manual **13.** 200 Waterfalls in Central NY **14.** Mineralogy of NY **15.** Field Trip Guidebook of the Rochester Area (1994) **16.** Roadside Geology of Virginia **17.** Rock Hound's Guide to New York State **18.** Gem Trails of New York State

# UPCOMING WCGM CLUB MEETINGS

**March 14, 2007 (Friday)** Park Presbyterian Church, Maple Court, Newark, NY.

Use the North door entrance on Church Street. Please drive carefully! Board of Director's Meeting 7-7:30pm  
General Membership meeting starts at 7:30pm. Mini-miner's at 7pm (see below) Pat Chapman- refreshments  
\_\_\_\_\_ door prizes. Bill Chapman will lecture on Herkimer Diamonds "Diamonds and Dust"



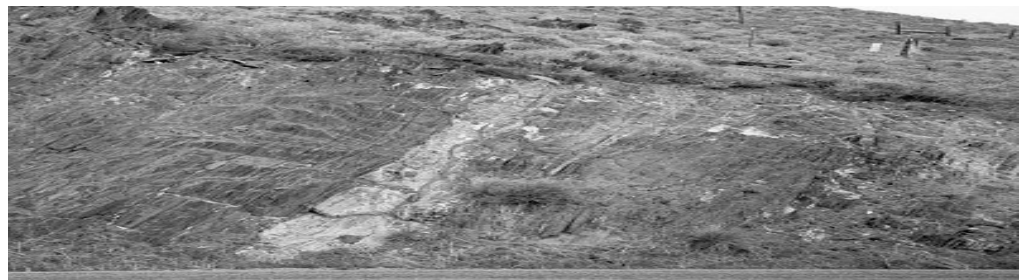
**April 11, 2007 (Friday)** Park Presbyterian Church, Maple Court, Newark, NY.

Use the North door entrance on Church Street. Please drive carefully!  
Board of Director's Meeting 7-7:30pm General Membership meeting starts at 7:30pm.  
Mini-miner's meet at 7pm. \_\_\_\_\_ refreshments \_\_\_\_\_ door prizes.  
Inga Well, from Sayre, Pa. will lecture on Wild Acres and digging in North Carolina

## CLUB NEWS TO dig - Kudos, too!

1. With gas prices steadily increasing, it is not only eco-friendly, but it's just plain economical for our members to consider car-pooling when possible. Think about it. Grab your buddy rock-hound and drive carefully!
2. KUDOS' to Ken Rowe, for his organizing work in the Bragging Rights contest.
3. DUES ARE DUE! Contact Bill Lesniak, Treasurer, as soon as possible. See the information on the back cover of this newsletter for details.
4. "Diamond Dan" has publications for young people interested in gems & minerals!  
Call: 585-289-4936.
5. **Plz: submit newsletter articles in writing BEFORE the 22nd of the month.**
6. KUDOS' to Marion Wheaton for contributing info on early WCGMC and also to Ken Rowe.
7. KUDOS' to Paul Bourneman for his website work, and to wife, Heather, for helping the mini-miners!
8. Sign up for refreshments.

## ROADCUTS



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Road cuts are the geologist's best friend. This tilted slate near Lake Isabella, California, is exposed in luscious detail in the road cut whereas only a few stone spikes crop out of the hillside above it. The widespread development of modern roads has been a bonanza for students of geology. Without road cuts, things are much tougher. Natural outcrops include stream beds, cliffs of various kinds, caverns and heavily eroded terrain. Soil and vegetation cover the rest, especially the softer rocks. And natural outcrops are usually weathered, obscuring the rock's true character (see greenstone for an example). Artificial exposures in mines and quarries are useful, but these are scattered and few. There's a reason why geology arose along with industrial technology. William Smith could create his Geological Map of 1815, the world's first, only because his business was digging canals everywhere in Great Britain. The rise of railroads and paved roads laid open the landscape like a scalpel, making mapping immeasurably easier. When you can study one perfect roadside exposure, you can recognize the rock elsewhere even when only bits and pieces stick above the soil. *—editor's note: Does anyone have good photos of road cuts that are found around here in Wayne County?*

## MINI-MINERS To Have Fossil Workshop at March 2008 Meeting

WCGMC member, Heather Bournemann, recently issued the following announcement for the Mini-Miners: "We will be looking at different fossils and learning how to preserve them. We will also be trying out our new Mineral Bingo Game. Come Join the Fun and don't forget to bring your completed word search for a FREE PRIZE!!! The word search for this month is found in the Mini-Miner section of our website."

**WAYNE COUNTY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.**

**MEETINGS:** Held 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday night of each month at 7:30pm at Park Presbyterian Church basement, Maple Court, Newark, NY

**WEBSITE:** americanhobbyshop.com

**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. 1<sup>st</sup> to Sept. 31<sup>st</sup>.

**\*\*NEW ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CLASSES**

**AND DUES (due Oct 1<sup>st</sup>):**

\$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, NY 14513

**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!!**

**(Lithuanian) Baltic Amber (Part 1)** --“Amber is one of nature's most fascinating products: its beauty, its glitter, warmth and mystery have fascinated mankind for thousands of years. Amber is warm, light, and pleasant to touch. Even in our time something magical rests within amber, and many carry the stone as an amulet or talisman. We know that Baltic amber is fossil resin produced by pine trees which grew in Northern Europe about 50 million years ago. The resin was washed out of the forest floor by large rivers and transported south towards the sea. In the course of time the resin was transformed to amber due to processes of polymerization and oxidation. Extensive transport of Baltic amber took place during the Ice Age when glaciers extended over northwest Europe. Therefore amber can be collected on the beaches of the Baltic Sea and the North Sea. Baltic amber can be traced back to ...” Stay tuned for part 2 or read the whole thing! <http://www.ambergallery.lt/english/muziejus.htm>

**Been there, dung that: NAU scientist gets the scoop on poop and climate change**

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (2/14/08)-- When scientists around the world think of dung, they think of Jim Mead. Mead, a researcher at Northern Arizona University, is one of the world's foremost authorities on animal dung, and he's got the poop to prove it. "You have got to laugh at this bizarre resource," says Mead, director of NAU's Laboratory of Quaternary Paleontology. "Although I don't think anyone is keeping track, I suspect we have the largest comparative animal dung collection in the world. If someone needs to identify dung, they send it to me." The lab, part of the university's Center for Environmental Sciences and Education, has row after row of cabinets with thousands of dung pieces.....” Stay tuned for the next issue! (Northern Arizona University) suggested by Bill Lesniak.



Stamp

**Wayne County Gem and Mineral Club**  
Rebecca Remington-editor  
David Kords- Past President/Advisor  
C/O American Hobby Shop  
P.O. Box 64  
Walworth, NY 14568

First class: dated meetings and time valued.

