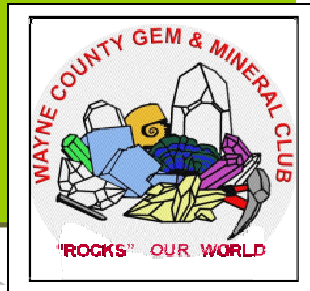




WAYNE COUNTY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB NEWS

VOLUME 36 No. 03 MARCH 2010



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Pat Chapman

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Bill Chapman

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President's Message

Hello Folks,

Recently, I spoke with Ken Rowe about the upcoming field trip to Pennsylvania later this month. We're going to start out on Friday & return on Sunday but arrangements can be made to meet up with the group if you can't leave until later. "Who's going to water & feed the animals? Pick up the mail? I've got stuff to do" - were some of the whiney things that first came to mind. Then, Ken talked about where we were going, where we've gone before and I started to remember the fun of these mini-vacations. What is so important that I have to deny myself the pleasure of seeing different things, enjoying the excitement of a good find or just let someone else do the cooking for a few days? The cold weather and mounting snow as of late may have forced a temporary mental hibernation but it's time to shrug off those cobwebs and get out and breathe some fresh air. The Poconos cry out & it's time to answer the call. Hope you're psyched & ready to go as I am. Got to remember to pack a couple of CDs "On the Road Again..."

Hmm Hmmm Hmm.

Pat

ANDREA KORDS: "EVERYDAY MINERALS" TALK (Feb 12th)



Andrea Kords, a Sweet Potatoe Queen turns Rock Star Teacher for the night.



Jerry Donahue, Stan Griffin, & Linda Schmidtgall



Terry Wilson, Roxie Rowe, Don Schiltz, and George Cataldo

Wayne County Gem & Mineral Club Monthly Meeting

February 12, 2010

The regular meeting of the WCGMC convened at 7:30 PM. There were 23 members in attendance. The Minutes of January's meeting printed in the newsletter were accepted. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as read. [see attached report] Motion made by Ken Rowe. Seconded by Terry Wilson. It was noted that the Christmas Auction proceeds still have not been given to the donors – 80% split to them 20% to the club. A motion to direct the Treasurer to pay these individuals was made by Ken Rowe & seconded by Jerry Donahue. Passed.

Old Business:

Club patches are still available for purchase. Costs: \$2 for club members \$3 for others. Vest Iron-On Patches are still avail for \$5.00. Pat Chapman noted that the Club Audit was almost complete & a report should be ready by next meeting. Jerry Donahue made a motion that an annual audit of the books be done in November. Seconded by Ken Rowe. Passed. A home for the fossil donated this last fall to the club is still needed. All are asked to consider what we should do with this very nice gift.

New Business:

The Board of Directors met to plan activities for this year. Please check the website for current & upcoming programs. April's meeting will be held in the lounge upstairs due to the Church's Rummage Sale. Use the entrance on the far side. The Field Trip Committee met to plan the trips for 2010. Handouts for Club Events from Feb. to May were handed out. All information is available on our website www.wcgm.org. Our next outing is a trip to the Capital District's Gem & Mineral Show in Albany this month. We'll carpool there. Sign up with Pat Chapman. Please Note: The Museum of the Earth in Ithaca will have free admission on 2/21 and 3/21.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Chapman -- President



**Club Inventory
We Need Your
Help!**

Inventory the Club's
Stuff in your
possession. Report
your findings to any
Board of Director.

Undersea Event Belongs to 'Elite Class'

**By Alicia Chang (The Associated Press) Dem & Chron (02/28/2010)
pg7a**

Los Angeles – The huge earthquake that struck off the coast of Chile belongs to an “elite class” of mega earthquakes, experts said, and is similar to the 2004 Indian Ocean temblor that triggered deadly tsunami waves. The magnitude 8.8 quake was a type called a “megathrust,” considered the most powerful earthquake on the planet. Megathrusts occur when one tectonic plate dives beneath another. Saturday's tremor unleashed about 50 gigatons of energy (Webster's defines a gigaton as “the explosive force of one billion tons of TNT”) and broke about 250 miles of the fault zone, said U.S. Geological Survey geophysicist Paul Caruso. The quake's epicenter was offshore and occurred about 140 miles north of the largest earthquake ever recorded – a magnitude 9.5 that killed about 1,600 people in Chile and scores of others in the Pacific in 1960. “It's part of an elite class of giant earthquakes,” said USGS geologist Brian Atwater. If the magnitude holds, it will tie with the 1906 offshore Ecuador quake as the fifth largest since 1900/ “There's only a few in this league,” said USGS geophysicist Ken Hudnut. (Contributed by Pat Chapman)

Techno-Taxonomy Digitizing the Tree of Life Could Finally Identify Thousands of New Species By Pat Walters *Popular Science* Feb. 2010 Pg 27 www.popsci.com (Submitted by Don Schiltz) Over the past 20 years, Richard Pyle figures he's discovered 100 new species of fish. But he's identified only one fifth of them. Pyle, an ichthyologist at Bishop Museum in Hawaii, isn't a slacker – he spent hundreds of hours tracking down those fish. It's just that proving that a new species is unique can be as tough as finding it in the first place. “There are literally thousands of new species sitting in storage at museums.” says Quentin Wheeler, renowned taxonomist & founder of the International Institute for Species Exploration at Arizona State University. Identifying these species isn't just to satisfy curiosity; we need a clear understanding of species in order to best organize conservation efforts. Here's the snag: To verify a new species, a taxonomist must examine the type specimens – the preserved representative samples of every known plant and animal – of each similar existing species to document the differences. Some animals must be compared with hundreds of specimens, and those might be anywhere in the world. Many are too fragile to ship. (continued on back cover page)

Andrea had a lot for everyone to take a look at.



Scott & Joshua

Earth-wide Events Update!

March 12 Friday Mini-Miners 6 PM. Calcite. Social Hour/Rock Identification & Swap 6:30 PM
Reg. Meeting 7 PM Program – Chuck Hiler presents his studies of the Lockport Formation.

March 19-21 [Friday – Sunday] **Field trip to PA** for minerals & fossils; Visit Nat. Limestone Quarry, Mt. Pleasant Mills & a number of other sites. Motel round Carlisle, PA. Contact Ken Rowe at gotrox88@localnet.com or 315-331-1438 for further information & sign up.

April 9 Mini-Miners: 6 PM. Wirewrapping marbles. Bring any interesting ones you might wish to wrap!
Social Hour/Rock Identification & Swap 6:30 PM / Reg. Mtg 7 PM/ Program - Inga Wells: "Glaciers" - A Moving Experience.

April 10 **MSHA Training has been postponed.** Let Pat Chapman know of your interest in this program.

April 11 Sunday **Field Trip To Lords Corners & Fayetteville NY [EFTA]**
Specimens: Lords Corners – large horn coral Fayetteville – selenite
Equipment Needed: hammer, chisel, collecting bucket, PPE Meet at 8 AM. Breakfast at Magee Restaurant at Rt. 414 & Rt. 318. Just south of Thurway Exit 41. Leave 8:45 AM. Carpool leaves restaurant parking area. Contact Ken Rowe at gotrox88@localnet.com or 315-331-1438 for further info & sign up.

April 23-25 **Field Trip to Sterling Hill NJ**
You can get a list of all the rare minerals KNOWN to be in the mine area by clicking the link on their web page <http://www.UVworld.org> .. The only dig at Sterling Hill where you can do a "night dig" plus see the "rainbow wall" of fluorescent rocks, lit by large UV lamps. So if you have to, take a nap in the afternoon so you can be "bright and bushytailed" in the evening. If you have ANY questions not answered by info on the website, email the Jeff Winkler at TripMaster@Uvworld.org and be sure to include your telephone number – he has "unlimited calling" and will be glad to call you back.

FRANKLIN, NEW JERSEY: 38th annual show and swap; Franklin-Ogdensburg Earth Science Association, New Jersey Earth Science Association, Sterling Hill Mining Museum; Franklin School, 50 Washington Ave.; Sat. 9-5:30, Sun. 9-5; adults \$5, children under 14 free with paying adult; contact Sterling Hill Mining Museum, (973) 209-7212 For questions & sign Up contact Bill Chapman batnpill2@empacc.net 607-868-4649 or Bill Lesniak dirtman300@aol.com 315-483-8061

April 24-25 Field Trip to Schoharie and Howe Caverns. To be rescheduled for July 2010. Date TBA

April 23-29 Wildacres NC Get away at a rock camp for everyone!
www.amfed.org/efmls/wildacres.htm

July 2-4, 2010 **MalicJewels Jewelry & Gift Show Rochester Riverside Convention Center**
123 E. Main St. Rochester, NY 14604 Fri. 12N-6PM; Sat. 10-6PM; Sun. 11-5 PM
Admission price \$6.00/person Numerous exhibitors - Contemporary/Antique/Estate/Costume/Fashion/Custom Designed & Bead Jewelry / Diamonds & Colored Gemstones / Pearls/Precious Metals - Beads/Beading Supplies

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.wcgm.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, 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!!

(from page 2) Wheeler thinks he has a solution that could speed up the classification and identification of species. This month, Wheeler and his collaborators at Microsoft & the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (Mass.) applied for National Science Foundation funding to create digital type specimens – “e-types”- for the more than one million known insects. To generate an e-type, a curator will simply slide the bug into a custom-built scanner that will take 100 or so 20 megapixel images and stitch them into a three-dimensional model using Microsoft’s Photosynth software. With a dozen of these machines working through the archives of the world’s natural history museums, Wheeler expects that the effort could digitize all the insects in five years and, with additional funding and projects, the rest of the world’s 1.8 million known species within a decade. Every year, taxonomists introduce about 20,000 species. In the same period, an estimated 30,000 vanish. At that rate the majority of Earth’s inhabitants could disappear before they’re known to science. By making it easier to examine existing organisms, Wheeler says his project will help bump the species description rate to 200,000 a year – a clip that could make it possible to name the world’s commonly estimated 20 million unknown species within 50 yrs. Some scientists, think even e-types won’t get the job done fast enough. Genetic testing, is the key. Canadian biologist Paul Herbert, wants to assign every species a DNA “bar code” based on variations in a gene that nearly all organisms possess. A new species would be identified not by its physical divergence from existing type specimens but by the difference between its bar code and all the others. Because the system is fast and cheap – the technique requires basic laboratory skills and can process 05 samples in two hours for \$10 apiece – Herbert says it could uncover every unknown plant and animal by 2025. Bar-coding is fast & cheap; it uses just one piece of one gene – & making it error prone. In 2008, Pyle made a definitive distinction between two new fish species, even though their bar codes were essentially identical. “It’s a blunt instrument,” Wheeler says of the DNA system. “One gene just isn’t sufficient.” Looking at actual specimens is an art & fun, he says.. He admits someday it might be possible to define new species using only DNA, he doesn’t like that idea much: “That would make taxonomy too boring to be worth doing.”



Stamp

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Rebecca Remington-editor
C/o WCGMC
P.O. Box 4
Newark, New York 14513



First class: dated meetings and time valued.