



WAYNE COUNTY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB NEWS

VOLUME 33 No. 5 MAY 2007



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PRESIDENT 's MESSAGE

Hi! I just got back from North Carolina. I had a wonderful time! I collected lots of pyrite cubes- some in matrix! I will be giving out door prize tickets at the meeting and members can have there pick of some nice pyrites from the Golden Proyopolite Quarry, North Carolina!

Hey- also- our meeting in June will be the first Friday of June (as we have planned). The meeting *place* will be announced at the May meeting on Friday this week.

Your President

FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE ANNOUNCE FREE KOA CAMPING TIME NEAR HERKIMER DIAMOND MINES

We wanted to let the other rock hounds know if they are looking forward to finding more of those sparkling New York Herkimer Diamonds this year, the nearby KOA is offering a free night [Sat. May 12th] if you stay there on Friday, May 11th, 2007.

Interested WCGMC members are encouraged to contact the Herkimer KOA site: (koa.com/comecampwithus) for official details on tent sites, RV sites, cabins & deluxe cottages, programs, etc... Think diamonds and think spring! ---Endorsed by Bill & Pat Chapman (607-868-4649) and the WCGMC Field Trip Committee members

Giant Crystal Cave's Mystery Solved

National Geographic - April 7, 2007 (Mexico)

It's "the Sistine Chapel of crystals," says Juan Manuel García- Ruiz. The geologist announced this week that he and a team of researchers have unlocked the mystery of just how the minerals in Mexico's Cueva de los Cristales (Cave of Crystals) achieved their monumental forms. Buried a thousand feet (300 meters) below Naica mountain in the Chihuahuan Desert, the cave was discovered by two miners excavating a new tunnel for the Industrias Peñoles company in 2000. To learn how the crystals grew to such gigantic sizes, García-Ruiz studied tiny pockets of fluid trapped inside. (Continued on page 3....)

Upcoming Wayne County Gem & Mineral Digs:

1. **5/11/07--- 5/13/07 8AM EFTA Dig** Margaret Hastings Claim & Herkimer Diamond Mines ---- Meet at Motel parking lot south of the motel at NYS Thruway Exit 42. We'll drive to the club's claim at Margaret Hastings near Fonda NY on Friday. Dig until 4 PM. Then we drive to the KOA at the Herkimer Diamond Mines & set up camp. Bill & Pat have a cabin near the entrance to the Diamond Mine for people to check in for further information. Look for the Wayne County GMC banner to locate the cabin. We dig at the Herkimer Mine on Sat. Bring-a-dish dinner and campfire on Sat. night. We will decide at the campfire where the group will dig on Sunday. The KOA has free camping on Sat. night if you stay on Friday night. Call **Herkimer Diamond Mines Resort** 800 Mohawk St. Herkimer NY 13350 800-562-0897 for reservations. www.herkimerdiamond.com
2. **5/12/07--- Dolomite Products Quarry Rock Collecting-- Open House 746** Whalen Road, Penfield, NY meet at 6:45AM enter at 7:00AM, prefer no late arrivals. Hardhat, steel toed shoes, and eye protection mandatory. Supervised children are allowed (bicycle helmets and sturdy shoes may be used in lieu of hard hats and steel toed shoes). Expect to find minerals: Fluorite, Calcite, Dolomite, Selenite, and Sphalerite.
3. **5/20/07--- Honeoye---** 8AM Car Pool leaves Stan Griffin 's house [1345 Bankert Rd. Clifton Springs. 315-462-3282]. 9AM meet at Convenience Store/Gas Station on 20A at intersection of East Lake Rd. & 20A. Looking for turtle stones and fossils.
4. **6/2/07 & 6/3/07--- NYS Dig Cortland NY--- Open to Everyone.** Events will include Camping, Metal Detecting and Gold Prospecting. Sat. night campfire get together. This is a chance to new friends and is open to families of all sizes [even pets!]. More info will be available soon. * **Free** *

Friends of Mineralogy-- Every mineral collector, at least those who read the *Mineralogical Record*, knows about the existence of the *Friends of Mineralogy*, an organization consisting of mineralogists, mineral collectors, mineral curators and mineral dealers. It was founded through the efforts of the late Arthur Montgomery, as a purely altruistic organization whose mission it is to foster the appreciation of minerals, to support the preservation and dissemination of mineralogical knowledge (especially among the collector community), and to support the responsible conservation of mineral specimens and mineral localities for posterity. Getting involved helps to increase the amount of enjoyment and satisfaction that the hobby of mineral collecting provides so abundantly. Go for it! Be a part of the synergy! Check out the organization's website at www.friendsofmineralogy.org. You can join the national Friends of Mineralogy as an at-large member (and receive their newsletter) by sending \$10.00/year dues to Jim Hurlbut, 2240 S. Adams St., Denver, CO 80210-4912. Phone 303-757-0283. Prospective members of a chapter may submit their applications directly to chapter contacts, and will be billed for the chapter dues, since the dues vary with individual chapters. (Contents copyright ©2007 The Mineralogical Record, Inc.)

WCGMC— Looking for the talented people interested in Lapidary Arts to join our club! Do you make jewelry or decorative ornaments? Do you carve or sculpt knick-knacks out of rocks, gems, or minerals? Do you know anyone who does? --Know any high school teachers or college professors willing to teach our members? Reach out and invite someone to our next meeting! Put the rocks and gems to fashionable use!

UPCOMING WCGM CLUB MEETINGS

May 11, 2007 at the Newark, NY Presbyterian Church
 WCGMC Board mtg 7pm-- Regular mtg 7:30pm-- Mini-miners 7pm
Marion Wheaton –refreshments Bill Lesniak -door prizes.

June 1st, 2007**

WCGMC Board mtg 7pm-- Regular mtg 7:30pm-- Mini-miners 7pm
 ???? – Refreshments ???? -- Door prizes

****The next newsletter will have the June meeting place.**

**CLUB NEWS TO dig -
Kudos, too!**

1. EFMLS announced the 2007 Wildacres Retreats to be in April and September. For info log onto www.amfed.org.efmls
2. EFMLS will be hosting a prize drawing at the October Newark, NY show. Contact Jane Hand, (601) 825-3989, 253 Wanda Dr. Brandon, MS 39042 for tickets!
3. KUDOS to Van King in the offer to help with the newsletters' electronic issues!
4. "Secretary Becky" has another car- and not a moment too soon. Crisis over, people!
5. KUDOS to Bill Lesniak and the others who suggested articles for last and this month's issues!
6. **Plz: submit newsletter articles in writing BEFORE the 22nd of the month.**
7. SIGN UP FOR JUNE'S REFRESHMENTS AND DOOR PRIZES AT THE MAY 2007 MEETING, PLEASE- OR CONTACT THE HOSPITALITY CHAIRPERSON ASAP. THANKS!
8. KUDOS to Bill and Pat Chapman who helped with setting up the field trips!
9. KUDOS to Bill Chapman and Stephanie Mason for doing Mini-Miners!
10. KUDOS to Andrea Kords for the wonderful job she organized for the latest show-mailing!

WCGMC ANNOUNCES Club's EFTA DIGS 2007!

An informal committee of club members recently planned the forth out of four 2007 EFTA digs. Bill Chapman, field trip chairman, assisted by Jerry Donahue, Terry Wilson, Don Schiltz, Ken and Roxanna Rowe, and Pat Chapman, announced the following field trips:

1. April 21, 2007 Brookfield site at Cole Road and Big Rock. (*This is already passed.*)
2. May 11, 12, & 13th Herkimer Diamond Mines and Margaret Hastings Claim
3. June 9th & 10th at Margaret Hastings Claims
4. WALWORTH!

The fourth field trip will be the annual October event at Walworth, NY. The details for the 2007 field trip have not been determined at this time, but it's expected to be generally like last year's event. This is an EFTA event, but according to our new by-laws, it is also considered a club dig, too. It promises to be a good time for all, as usual. Contact any of the above named people or Dave or Andrea Kords or Bill and Pat Chapman (see front page for phone numbers) for more information. Hope to see ya there!

Continued from page 1—

The cave contains some of the largest natural crystals ever found: translucent gypsum beams measuring up to 36 feet (11 meters) long and weighing up to 55 tons. The crystals, he said, thrived because they were submerged in mineral-rich water with a very narrow, stable temperature range - around 136 degrees Fahrenheit (58 degrees Celsius). At this temperature the mineral anhydrite,
 (See next page)

Earth-Wide Events To Try!**May 2007****19-20: Berks**

Mineralogical Society- 39th Annual "World of Gems and Minerals" at Leesport, PA; 8 miles south of Rte. 78/6 miles north of Reading, PA. Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4, Adm: \$1 students free. info@berksmineralsociety.org

June 2007

2: MACUNGIE, PA "PSEA Spring Mineralfest", Pennsylvania Earth Sciences Association, Macungie Park Bldg-children under 12 free. Contact Ed Richards at mineralfest@aol.com

2: Gem-Mineral-Fossil and Jewelry Show-- Bergen County Mineralogy & Paleontology Soc. and The NJ Paleontological Soc. 10AM to 5 PM Free public admission. Dealers welcome. Tom 631-499-7504 tomcagg@aol.com or Howie 201-265-2236 fossilh@aol.com

2-3: Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show sponsored by the Connecticut Valley Mineral Club. Three County Fair Grounds, Old Ferry Rd,, Northampton, MA.

9-10: Annual Mineral Swap & Sell sponsored by the Orange County Mineral Society. Museum Village Green (outdoors), Monroe, NY.

23-24: GILSUM, NH 43rd Annual Gilsum Rock Swap and Mineral Show Sat. 8-6, Sun 8-4, free. Gilsum Rec. Committee gilsum.org/rockswap.aspx

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: 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. 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, NY14513

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!!

Deep in the Last Frontiers of Unexplored Underground America a New Genus is Found:

Just when you think there was nothing left to discover, caves in Grand Canyon , Ariz. , reveal something new. These caves are home to a new genus of eyeless, pigmentless millipede. USGS and BLM scientists collected specimens that led to the discovery of two new millipede species in caves on opposite sides of the Grand Canyon , which were subsequently determined to be an entirely new genus. The Grand Canyon millipedes are “essentially living fossils” and provide researchers with another piece of the puzzle of understanding cave ecosystems. For more information, contact J. Judson Wynne at (928) 556-7466 or jut.wynne@nau.edu, or Stephanie Hanna at (206) 331-0335 or shanna@usgs.gov

USGS Office of Communications *Science Picks* — Leads, Feeds and Story Seeds April 2007 Edition

Continued from page 3-- which was abundant in the water, dissolved into gypsum, a soft mineral that can take the form of the crystals in the Naica cave. With lengths over 11m, the giant gypsum crystals found in Mexico's Cueva de los Cristales are a great natural wonder! Bill Lesniak invites members to see the photos and read more: <http://www.crystalinks.com/mexicocrystals.html>



Stamp

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First class: dated meetings and time valued.

