



Voice of the Dinosaur

Newsletter of the Kawartha Rock & Fossil Club

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LAST REGULAR MEETING

Mar 08, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President, George Thompson with 21 members in attendance.

Show Chair, Bob Beckett thanked the many members that helped to create another successful show and presented a preliminary report. Show attendance once again was at a record high.

Following the business portion of the meeting, Stan Nowicki entertained the members with a slide show on his prospecting adventures in Northern Ontario and Quebec.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Date: Apr 12, 2016

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: New Activity Centre, Peterborough Zoo

No speaker

Featuring: Minerals from The Marmoraton Open Pit Iron Mine, Marmorata, Ontario as well as fossils from southern Ontario.

As we have trips planned that will be upon us very soon, this is a great opportunity to share with our new member what to expect at Marmoraton Mine and some of the fossil locations. So dust off your favourite and most interesting specimens and come out for an evening of open discussion and socializing.

Respectfully
Robert Montgomery
Secretary KR&FC

ANNUAL GEM, MINERAL AND FOSSIL SHOW

Not much to report at this time as far as details, but as mentioned on page 1, attendance was amazing. I'm sure Mother Nature had a hand in that as the weather for driving was fantastic. Below are a few of our lucky door prize winners (all photos used with permission).



BEST COLLECTED MINERAL / FOSSIL 2015 SHOWCASE



While there wasn't a vast number of choices, the results are in for the best collected mineral and fossil (KRFC members only) for 2015. The winners are:



Mineral: Ulli Kullik for her Epidote crystals from Marmora. These were much nicer in person, they just don't photograph the greatest.



Fossil: Kevin Kidd with a *Carabocrinus vancortlandti* crinoid crown from the Verulam formation.

Thanks to all who entered, and let's try to get a few more for next year's contest.

Here is a quick note I received from a couple who really need no introduction:

To all our KRFC friends:

It was certainly a pleasant surprise to receive the honour of life membership in the KRFC even though we will not be able to participate in the more strenuous club activities.

While it may seem to youngsters that we were with the KRFC since ancient times, we must point out that we are not founding members, in fact joining the KRFC only after I retired in 1991.

Bev and I have enjoyed serving in various capacities both on and off the Executive and have tried, through our various endeavors, to contribute to the club in a positive way. We strongly encourage other members to take on Executive positions for the experience and the comradery.

Best wishes

Ken and Bev Fox

2016 Fossil Collecting

By Kevin Kidd

Sunday, Mar 13

I'm back....

Saturday was the nicest day of the year so far, with sunny skies and temperatures nearing twenty degrees, so naturally, I'm stuck at home because my wife made other plans. This meant that Sunday was my "opening day" at my usual quarry. Due to the time change, I arrived at the quarry late (for me), at about 7:45 and sure enough, there had been others there the day before as evidenced by their waivers in the mailbox. I get to pick through the leftovers.

My plan was to walk around the upper levels and see what, if anything, had eroded out over the “winter that wasn’t”. The pickings were pretty slim to say the least. The first thing I kept was a rusophycus. This is a trilobite resting trace fossil. The trilobite would have been on the opposite side of the fossil and as it sat and moved its legs, it created what looks, to me anyway, like a pair of bananas sitting side by side. The likely culprit for this rusophycus is a Flexicalymene due to their abundance, but it could have come from any of several similar sized bugs found at the site.



Figure 1 Trilobite *rusophycus* (resting trace)

The quarry was understandably very muddy, and as I headed toward the north wall, I

saw no fresh footprints so my hopes were raised a bit that the area wasn’t cleaned out before I got there. As I continued around, I picked up a couple of common pieces -more because they were in near perfect shape than anything. I saw a couple of damaged trilobites that stayed where they were, but nothing fantastic was showing itself. With the wind really picking up, it took quite a while before I found anything that would salvage my trip. At the last corner before the newer area, I finally found my prize of the day. Centered on a small slab of yellowed limestone was a good sized *Isorophusella incondita* edrioasteroid with a smaller juvenile specimen nearby. Think of these creatures as “seated starfish”. It looks as though one of the arms has disarticulated, but the rest is quite nice, and these are always a welcomed find. The large one is slightly smaller than a nickel in diameter.

A walk along the road one level down from here proved fruitless, as did a quick climb on the mountain. It was too wet and mushy, so one trip up and back down was enough for me. The wind gusts up there weren’t helping either. Rather than go to the bottom pit and start splitting rock, I called it a day. The bottom will be my focus next time out when I can spend a full day down there.



Figure 2 *Isorophusella* edrioasteroids. The juvenile is at the 11 o'clock position

2016 FIELD TRIPS

At the moment I can give you only the dates for May and June. I’m still waiting for property owner’s permission on other collecting sites.

Will send emails out to the membership as soon I know more.

A few words about Marmora trips:

We now share our field trips to Marmora with other clubs. There is a reserved number of openings for KRFC members for each trip. If one member doesn't make it on the first trip, that member will be first on the list for the next trip, just to be fair. We will have more trips to Marmora later in the year, so everybody will have a chance to go.

Here a reminder about Marmora rules. I assume they have not changed for 2016

Please do not be late for the sign-in..... late comers will not be allowed on site.

Young Collectors: you must be 16 years of age or older and accompanied by an adult.

You NEED a current KRFC Club membership card OR a current CLUB CARD associated with the CCFMS and government issued photo I.D. to be able to sign in.

Full safety gear must be worn at all times while on site and at sign in.

Long pants must be worn, no shorts!

Entry fee of \$10 as a donation to the Bancroft Gem & Mineral Club museum.

No power tools or micro-blasters.

Absolutely no selling of specimens collected. This is most important as AECON has made numerous complaints about the selling of specimens collected from the site. AECON is very supportive of collecting for education and study and we need to respect their position.

Try and stay as long as possible. The more interest and use of the site we can show the more chance there will be of AECON keeping the site open to collectors.

If we stick with the new rules we might be rewarded by AECON keeping this outstanding collecting site open to CCFMS member clubs.

If you have registered and cannot make it, please let me know as soon as possible so we can fill your spot. Limited spaces available!!!

Here are the dates field trips May and June

Saturday May 7th Beamsville Nelson Aggregates

Safety Vest (fluorescent), Long Pant, Safety Boots Safety Glasses and Hard Hat are required for admittance to the Quarry.

All attendees must be a member of a CCFMS affiliated club to participate at this event for insurance reasons. Membership cards should be available on request.

Also this Quarry is a working quarry and admittance is restricted to persons 16 years of age and over. Plan to arrive opposite the gate of the quarry at about 8:30 am for sign in and vehicle tag in. We will enter the quarry about 9:00 am after our safety talk.

Beamsville map at following link:

<http://www.ccfms.ca/Events/Beamsville.html>

May the 7th Marmora

To register for this trip contact ulrike.kullik@gmail.com cell 705 768 3787

May the 28th Craigmont (Corundum)

To register for this trip contact ulrike.kullik@gmail.com cell 705 768 3787

Alf Newnham will lead this trip. Should be lots of fun.

June the 4th Beryl Pit

This is a Scarborough Club Trip and we are invited to join in.

Trip leader is Bob Beckett.

To register for this trip please contact Bob rhbeckett@bell.net

June 4th or 5th James Dick Quarry (Fossils)

This is a Scarborough Club /KRFC trip

Trip leader is Kevin Brett

To register for this trip please contact Kevin trilobitologist@yahoo.com

June the 25th Marmora

To register for this trip contact ulrike.kullik@gmail.com cell 705 768 3787

16th or 23th of July Ore chimney mine (day trip)

Last year there was only a little time to explore the site, so this time it is a full day trip.

Here are links for more info about the site.

<http://www.geologyontario.mndm.gov.on.ca/gosportal/gos?command=mndmsearchdetails:mdi&uuid=MDI31C14SE00142>

<http://www.mindat.org/loc-13218.html>

<http://www.mindat.org/article.php/1406/12.+Exploring+Former+Mining+Sites+From+Kaladar+to+Fernleigh+Ontario%2C+Canada>

To register for this trip please contact ulrike.kullik@gmail.com cell 705 768 3787

Please remember that there are limited spaces and understand that each club member will get a chance to go. If I have to, I will create waiting lists.

Time and meeting places will be sent to members having registered for trips.

Ulrike Kullik -Field trip coordinator KRFC

COMING EVENTS

Still no update to the CCFMS website, so if anyone knows any additional show info, please forward it to me for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Saturday Apr. 2 & Sunday Apr. 3: Brantford Lapidary & Mineral Society presents the 44th annual Gem & Mineral show at the Paris Fairgrounds, 139 Silver St., Paris ON

For more info call Nathan Etherington 519-442-3777 - nellyknitter@gmail.com

Fri, Sat & Sun Apr 15-17: Club de Mineralogie de Montreal holds their 31st show at the Centre Pierre-Charbonneau, 3000 rue Viau, Montreal.

More info at www.SalonMinerauxMtl.com

Fri, Sat & Sun Apr 22-24: The Toronto Gem & Mineral show and sale. Don Mills Civitan Arena, 1030 Don Mills Rd, North York ON

More info at www.torontogemshow.com

Jul 17-19: 33rd annual Sudbury Gem & Mineral Show. Fri. 5 pm to 9 pm, Sat. 10 am to 6 pm; Sun. 10 am to 5 pm. Carmichael Arena on Bancroft Dr., across from Minnow Lake, 1 km. south of the Kingsway (Hwy. 17E), Sudbury, ON

For more info contact Ed DeBicki at 705-522-5140 or check www.ccfms.ca/clubs/sudbury.show.htm

Sunday, Jul 24: 20th annual Bancroft Gem & Mineral Club Show 10 am to 4 pm. Bancroft Legion Hall, Station St, Bancroft, ON. \$3 Admission to show or \$5 to show and mineral museum. Children 15 yrs or less are free

EDITOR'S RANT

Finally, a few pictures and something other than club business to write about. With the spring thaw and the beginning of collecting season, the newsletters should be a bit more interesting. If anyone wants to submit anything for publication, especially mineral related collecting trips, just send me an email and I will include it. I would also recommend for club members to take advantage of the field trips Ulli puts together. These are decent sites that can be taken away from us at any time and we should enjoy them while we still can. Get out there and start collecting! -KK