



Voice of the Dinosaur

Newsletter of the Kawartha Rock & Fossil Club

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LAST REGULAR MEETING

May 10, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President, George Thompson with 24 members present.

An enjoyable evening for all including many new members. There was a great display of specimens to inspire discussion.

Upcoming Field Trip, The Quadville Beryl Pit June 4th and Marmora June 25th

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Date: June 14, 2016

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: New Activity Centre, Peterborough Zoo

No Speaker:

Bring your mineral samples from the Beryl Pit and Marmora as well as fossils from anywhere for our new members to see. This is the final meeting before the summer break.

Respectfully
Robert Montgomery
Secretary KR&FC

2016 Fossil Collecting

By Kevin Kidd

Sunday, May 1

After a lot of last minute scrambling –no insurance until the Friday afternoon before the trip- I was set to lead another group of fossil collectors into the St Marys cement quarry in Bowmanville. This was the first time since I've been collecting that we've had a spring trip in addition to our regular fall one. Despite short notice and unpleasant weather, we still had 17 people turn out from as far away as New York, Sarnia and North Bay. Most everyone had rain gear, but it wasn't all that bad, in fact, I'd even go so far as to say it was pretty near ideal collecting conditions. The rain became just a drizzle as we entered the pit, overcast skies, not too hot and no humidity.

Since I had very little luck on level 2 last fall, this time around I began on level 3. There was plenty of material to go through so my first area was the top of the pile. I missed out on any trilobites last fall, but it didn't take too long before I had my first one this time around. It is a decent sized *Isotelus* in a ventral orientation (Fig 1). This means that what is exposed is the inside of the trilobites shell. Unfortunately the hypostome (mouth part) is gone, but I did find a nice large one later on (Fig 2). Not wanting to risk losing this bug (read my 2014 trip report for that story) I grabbed the saw and cut him out.



Figure 1 Ventral *Isotelus* trilobite



Figure 2 *Isotelus* hypostome. Not much to see now, but will look like "Pac-Man" once it's prepped out. Has plenty of great terrace lines on it as well.



Figure 3 *Thaleops* head. The eyes are sticking out of each side.

Next to join my pile was potentially my best piece of the trip. On a small rock was a beautifully preserved head of a *Thaleops* trilobite with both eyes intact and not a nick on it that I can see (Fig 3). I've seen these before where the head is on the bedding plane and the body goes straight down, and I'm hoping that's the case here because if so, it should be a pristine example.

Still on a trilobite spree, the next one would prove to be the most difficult. On top of the pile, but fortunately near the front, I saw a nice *Isotelus* "mafritzae" with one eye intact and exposed and the other one likely

buried. The problem....it was on a car door sized rock, about 6" thick, angled down into a pit and the bug was on the low end (Fig 4). Now, I wasn't going to leave this here, but I had to figure out how to do anything with it. As luck would have it, there was a crack in the rock, away from the fossil for a change, so I was able to pound off a large chunk with my sledge. That done, I found a separation of the bedding planes and split the rock



Figure 4 Son of a..... How am I gonna get this???



Figure 5 A closer look, as found

lengthwise. The host rock was still a fair size, but I was able to horse it up to a position where I could use the saw to retrieve my prize (Fig 5). Once I had that cut out, I saw that I'd attracted an audience. One member from the Niagara club had a small *Isotelus* and asked if I'd cut it out for him, which I gladly did, then David D'Andrea asked if I would do the same for him. Apparently his wife had just found her first trilobite. I made David carry my saw as I was pooped, but we climbed up to where Monica was waiting with not only her first, but also her second trilobites (Fig 6). It was a double plate and I had to ask why they couldn't find singles (David found a pair of double plates last fall). Of course, this was also on a thick rock so I cut as deep as I could all around and left the rest up to David. He managed to extract them without the rock breaking up and Monica was quite pleased with the result.



Figure 6 One looking left and one looking down

My last find was a large *Lingula* brachiopod. I've written about these a few times before, from both Bowmanville and my regular spot, so I won't bore you with details, but this is the largest one I've found yet and seems in be in about the best condition one could hope for (Fig 7). Lots of other trilobites were found, which left before I could get pics, but at the end of the day, my friend Jabali made the most interesting find of the day in my opinion. I know this will make Peter Lee quite jealous, but he found a worm (*Lecthaylus* sp.??). I've only seen one other from Bowmanville personally but it was flattened, this one is very three dimensional. Now I've got something else to keep an eye open for when we go back in the fall.



Figure 7 *Lingula cobourgensis*, an inarticulate brachiopod

Short report on the Craigmont trip Saturday, May 28th.

If you were not on this trip, you missed out.

Kingston and Kawartha club members had lots of fun and some very good finds.

The heat was not too bad and the bugs did not bite, just a lot of buzzing around.

Lots of Corundum was found in different qualities and sizes, as well Scapolite and Mica books.

You never know what you'll find. One Kingston Club member hit the jackpot. Judge for yourself.

Here are some photos:



Corundum fresh from the ground and not cleaned. Impressive!!!



A closer look



1 1/2 inch corundum crystal

2016 FIELD TRIPS

Field trip list -short version. Specific details will be emailed shortly before each trip.

All of these trips are open to KRFC members.

If you have any questions (Registration, tools to bring, location.....) please contact ulrike.kullik@gmail.com or cell 705 768 3787

***** REMEMBER TO REGISTER with the right person/club and BRING YOUR CLUB CARD**

Happy Hunting

******* Trips subject to cancellation if member registration is too low *******

JUNE

4th Beryl Pit (Bob Beckett)

5th James Dick (Kevin Brett) (full safety gear)

25th Marmora KRFC (full safety gear) (Still a few spaces available)

25th & 26 Eganville Miller Property (Kingston Club)

July

16th Ore Chimney Mine KRFC /Tweed Office

Only 4 registrations. If more people don't register, the trip will be cancelled. Peter LeBaron from the Tweed Office will not come out for that number.

23th Tory Hill (Kingston Club)

AUGUST

13th to 20th Lake Superior trip NPGS

21th to 27th Thunder Bay AMETHYST with Alf (Kingston club, bring full safety gear)

27th Malone KRFC (Nobody has registered yet for this trip)

SEPTEMBER

3rd Eganville Miller Property (Kingston Club)

10th & 11th Wollastonite Mine and others NPGS (full safety gear)

17th Marmora KRFC (full safety gear)

24th Beamsville (not yet confirmed) CCFMS (full safety gear)

24th TBA Kingston club

OCTOBER

15th Marmora KRFC (full safety gear)

22nd to 24th Herkimer, NY State (Kingston Club)

22nd Tatlock Quarry KRFC (full safety gear) (Nobody has registered yet for this trip)

COMING EVENTS

Saturday, June 11th. 50th annual NPGS Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show and Sale –a Geo Venture. 10am to 5pm. Held at Heartland Forest, 8215 Heartland Forest Rd. Niagara Falls ON. Admission \$3 (\$2 with coupon) Children 12 and under are free.

For more info contact Ashley Pollock 905-687-6503 or check www.ccfms.ca/clubs/NPGS/

Friday-Sunday, Jul 15-17: 34th 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 1298 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, 16 Station St, Bancroft, ON. \$3 Admission to show or \$5 to show and mineral museum. Children 15 yrs or less are free

For more info contact Frank Melanson 613-332-1032

Thursday July 28th –Sunday July 31st. 53rd Annual Bancroft Rockhound Gemboree. T/F/Sa 10am to 6pm, Sun 10am to 5pm. 2 venues and outdoor area- Bancroft Curling Club, 63 Newkirk Blvd & North Hastings Community Centre, 103 Newkirk Blvd, Bancroft. Admission TBA, children under 7 free

Saturday-Sunday, September 17 & 18 “Wonders of the Earth” –the 47th Scarborough Gem & Mineral Club Show. Saturday 10am to 6pm, Sunday 10am – 5pm. Don Montgomery Community Centre, 2467 Eglinton Ave. East, Scarborough. Admission adults \$5, children \$1. Discount coupons available

For more info check www.scarbclub.ca

Saturday-Sunday, September 24 & 25 50th OLMC Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewellery Show & Sale. Saturday 10am – 6pm, Sunday 10am – 5pm. Carleton university Fieldhouse, 1125 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa. Admission- 65+ \$5, adults \$8, student \$6 (with ID), 13-17 yrs \$2, 12 and under are free

For more info check Ottawa Lapsmith & Mineral Club website www.olmc.ca

Friday-Sunday, September 30th – Oct 2nd. Ancaster Gem, Mineral, Bead & Jewellery Show. Friday 9:30am – 5pm, Sat & Sun 10am – 5pm. Ancaster Fairgrounds, 630 Trinity Rd, Ancaster. Admission \$8, 2-day pass \$14. Children 12 & under are free

For more info contact 519-448-1236 or 1-800-360-2813

Saturday –Sunday, October 15 & 16. 47th Annual Kingston Gem Storm. Saturday 10am – 6pm, Sunday 10am – 5pm. Portsmouth Olympic Harbour, 53 Yonge St, Kingston. Admission \$3, children 12 & under are free.

For more info contact Les Moss 613-384-4439

Ongoing Events

Robert Hall Originals Open Houses:

Giant Jewellery Yard Sale: Friday July 22 & Saturday July 23

Rockhound Family Day: Saturday August 13

Annual “12 Days of Christmas” Open House: November 17 – 28

Hours: Mon-Fri 9am – 5pm, Sat 10am – 4:30pm, closed Sundays

138 Sugar Maple Rd, St George ON

For more info contact 519-448-1236 or 1-800-360-2813 or check www.roberthalloriginals.com

Rock, Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Meteorite Identification Clinics at the ROM:

Wednesdays, Jun 15, August 17, October 19 & December 7

Hours: 4pm – 5:30pm

Royal Ontario Museum School Groups Lunchroom, President’s Choice entrance on Queen’s Park, doors nearest Museum subway stop

For more info contact 416-586-5186 or visit museum website at www.rom.on.ca

EDITOR’S RANT

Well there you have it. This is the last newsletter until the September issue and I hope you’ve enjoyed what I’ve done with them up to this point. There will be emails about collecting trips throughout the summer and if anyone wants to do a trip report about any of them, send it along and I’ll add it to the next issue. Thanks to Ulli for the Craigmont report. Enjoy your summer, and all the collecting opportunities it allows. -KK