



Voice of the Dinosaur

Newsletter of the
Kawartha Rock and Fossil Club

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**Last Regular Meeting**

April 8, 2014

The meeting was called to order by the President, Robert Montgomery. A general meeting was conducted.

Mineral specimens and a fossil were passed around for the "Stump the Experts". There was no clear winner, but all enjoyed the challenge. After adjournment, Tom Jenkins held a silent auction. This was followed by the speaker for the evening, George Thompson.

He gave a most timely presentation, using visual aids on cleaning minerals, showing some equipment that can be used and noting some chemicals that might be used in the process of cleaning.

Next Regular Meeting

Date: May 13, 2014

Place: Orientation Centre, Peterborough Zoo

Time: 7:00 pm

Agenda: Regular Business Meeting

Program: Mark Stanley will speak on the mineral Fluorite and some of the history of Fluorite mining in the Madoc area.

It would be impossible to cover the whole topic of Fluorite mining in one night, so his presentation will be centered around one prospector who played a major role in the Madoc, ON area.

Stump the Experts

- Bring any mineral or fossil to the meeting, if it can not be identified by those in attendance, you win the prize.
- To be declared a winner you must be able to positively identify the specimen yourself.
- You must specify the exact location it was found.
- If you don't know it's identity and you would just like to have your specimen identified then, please feel free to join in on the fun.
- Each member will have one try at it by writing his/her answer on paper without consultation or discussion.
- The prize: you will have first pick from the silent action table of the specimen of your choice free of charge. One winner only, multiple winners will be dealt with.

For the benefit of any new member:

I will continue to bring to the meetings a collection of minerals that I collected locally to show new members what is available to collect on our field trips. If any member would like to add to this display, please feel free to do so. It will help to keep it interesting. Fossils are especially appreciated as I have very few.

Thank you.

Robert Montgomery, President KRFC

👉 Meeting Location, Temporary Changes 👈

Due to construction projects a few meetings this year will be held in alternative locations.

May 13th. - Usual place.

June 10th. - Community Counseling and Resource Ctr., 540 George St. N., Peterborough "downstairs training room".

There is parking in front for about 6 vehicles and plenty of parking directly across the street. This building is actually an old annex of and immediately north of George St. United Church right on the corner of George and McDonell St.

September 9th. - Location to be announced, check our website as we get closer to the date.

October 14th. - We may be back at the Zoo, check our website as we get closer to the date.

THE FIELD TRIP CORNER

Ulli has some field trip plans. She just has to clarify a few details. Watch your email for more info. If you do not have email and are interested in field trips, contact her at: ulrike.kullik@gmail.com or call 705-778-3787.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■ RE: THE NEWSLETTER

I know that not every member reads the newsletters so I have to wonder if this method of communication is becoming redundant since most members now have email and access to our message board. At a cost of approximately \$100.00/year, hard copies of the Newsletter and minutes are printed and mailed to the few members without email. These members do not usually participate in field trips.

I intend to give up the Editorship of the Newsletter at the Annual General Meeting in January 2015, so if no one else steps forward to take the position, I assume the Newsletter will be terminated.

In its place, a simple notification of field trips, other messages, copies of the minutes of meetings, etc. via email or snail mail might be sufficient.

Thank you.

Bev Fox, Editor *Voice of the Dinosaur*

THE FOSSIL CORNER
2014 Fossil Collecting - Trip 1
By Kevin Kidd

Saturday, April 5

After a LOOOOONG winter, I finally ventured out to my regular spot. After a week of positive temps, I figured a lot of the remaining snow would be gone. Not so much. Saturday happened to be the only day I could get out, as well as the worst day of the week for weather. It was only a couple of degrees above zero, with a nasty wind and it snowed just enough to obscure any low spots in the talus piles. To top it off, the quarry was working that day as well. They still let me in, but I had to stay away from where they were working, which, of course, was the one spot I wanted to be.

I walked along the piles on the first level, which have been there for years, but new stuff is constantly eroding out of the walls. I had no luck along the first area I tried, and by the time I finished it, the snow was really blowing and making life miserable. I headed over to another spot that had been good to me in the past to find the main route to it flooded. At this point, only a couple of hours in, I was seriously contemplating leaving, but I decided to stay and took the long route over several gravel piles to my spot. It took a while, but it did pay off as there, on a high spot out of the snow, was a prone *Flexicalymene senaria* (Figure 1, below). Great! Prone examples are much more uncommon than enrolled ones, especially in this area. I continued walking along the wall and found a first for me....another "Flexi", but this one is a juvenile, and it was found *in situ*, sitting on a small piece I pulled out of the wall (Figure 2, below to the right).



Figure 1.

For those that don't do Latin, *in situ* means that the fossil is in its natural stratigraphic position and hasn't been eroded out or moved. The picture shows my hammer (handle end) on top of the talus pile, and the "trilo" just above that. This is far and away the smallest *Flexicalymene* I have found, and it's another prone one.



Figure 2.

Prone juvenile *Flexicalimene*.

That really made my day. Nothing else of note was found, and by noon my fingers were frozen, so despite being a few weeks later than normal, I'd still say this trip was a success. Figure 3 (below) shows the two trilobites after cleaning.



Figure 3.
Flexycalemene after cleaning.



Figure 4.
Quarry bottom level.

Figure 4 (to the right above) shows the bottom level of the quarry, which will take weeks to melt and dry out. Finally, just a side note about spring in Ontario-the next day was beautiful. We had the windows of the house open most of the day, and I was barbecuing in shirt sleeves quite comfortably.

Saturday, April 12

With much better weather than the previous trip, I returned to the pit hoping that the quarry crew weren't working again. The good news-they weren't, and a lot of snow had melted. I had the whole place to myself for a few hours and was able to check out the new blast area. The bad news-other than a couple of gastropods, I didn't find anything in that area. There has been a lot of rock removed since last fall, but what was still piled there was dirty and nearly devoid of fossils. I wasn't even seeing many pieces, let alone complete specimens. Since I was on a bit of a time limit, I walked along the north wall between the new area and where I left off the previous week and was rewarded with a couple of b-grade *Isotelus* trilobite rollers (Figure 5 left in photo). They're complete, but the larger one has a ding in his lip and is somewhat compressed. The smaller one is as flat as a pancake. I scrambled up to ground level and found a seemingly perfect enrolled *Flexi-calymene* (Figure 5 right in photo). I also noticed that I had company. I knew my friend Beth was coming and bringing a few people from the K-W club, and there they were, so I talked to them for a bit. Running short on time, I went to the large pile for an hour or so, but found nothing worth mentioning. It was still pretty wet



Figure 5.

and mushy, so climbing was not the easiest. Oh well, it's early and things can only improve. This certainly isn't my longest trip report, but does it ever feel good to get back out there again.

One final tidbit, the girls in the Cultural Heritage and Conservation Management class at Fleming College (Peterborough campus) have put together a display entitled "Imagination Fueled by Fossils" and if I do say so myself, they've done a wonderful job. Most of the pieces are 3D printer replicas, or papier mache, but there are a few real fossils as well, including a couple donated by yours truly. Figure 6 (below) is a panoramic shot of their display, the first time I'd ever seen it completed, and it looks very professional. Great job ladies.



Figure 6.

Until next month –Happy Hunting!

THE EDITOR'S CORNER

Thanks to Kevin Kidd for sharing with us his entertaining article on his first fossil collecting trip of the year. He will be leading a trip into the James Dick Quarry later this year. Robert Montgomery and Mark Stanley have added their bit to this Newsletter, also.

Last, but not least, my thanks to my husband Ken for taking the time to read over the Newsletter and assist me in the photocopying and mailing of the "snail mail" copies.

COMING EVENTS

Courtesy of the CCFMS Website

May 2-4 Robert Hall Originals – Annual Spring Open House & Demonstration Weekend
138 Sugar Maple Road, St. George, Ontario N0E 1N0
10:00 am to 5 pm each day
Rocks, minerals, gems, beads, lapidary demonstrations & more!

A Free Weekend of Fun...

"Mineral Madness" - Featuring Canadian Minerals & Our New Thunder Bay Mine Finds!

New & Different Jewellery & Lapidary Demonstrations

Explore Outdoor Rock Piles.

Free Coffee & Treats!

Phone: 519-488-1236, 1-800-360-2813

Website: <http://www.roberthalloriginals.com>

Email: robert@roberthalloriginals.com

May 2-4

Canadian Micro Mineral Association 51st Symposium.

Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario.

For more info contact: ruehlicke@rogers.com

May 3

The Kitchener-Waterloo Gem and Mineral Show

Location: Waterloo Community Arts Centre (aka the "button factory")

25 Regina St. S., Waterloo, ON

10 AM - 4 PM.

Rocks, minerals, gemstones, jewelry, fossils, meteorites.

Free admission. Free rocks for kids.

Contact: kwgemandmineralclub@hotmail.com

Website: www.calaverite.com/kwgmcc

June 7

Niagara Peninsula Geological Society - 48th Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show Sale.

Mountainview United Church, 150 Glendale Avenue, St. Catharines, ON.

For more info contact: npgsshow@bell.net, or visit:

<http://www.ccfms.ca/clubs/NPGS/>

June 18

Mineral Identification Night at the ROM

4:00 pm to 5:30 pm.

Use President's Choice Entrance on Queen's Park, doors nearest Museum subway stop.

Visit their website at:

<http://www.rom.on.ca/en/activities-programs/events-calendar/rock-gem-mineral-fossil-and-meteorite-identification-clinic>

or contact at 416-586-5816; naturalhistory@rom.on.ca