



# Voice of the Dinosaur

## Newsletter of the Kawartha Rock and Fossil Club

November 2015 ~ Volume 27 ~ Issue 9

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Member of the CCFMS



### LAST REGULAR MEETING

October 13, 2015

The meeting was called to order by the President, Steve Wesley with a quorum of 11 members present. A regular meeting was conducted.

Steve advised the group that, due to business obligations, he would no longer be able to continue as President in 2016. He also noted that Ulrike Kullik (Ulli) would not put up her name for Field Trip Co-Ordinator at the 2016 AGM. He voiced his concern over the fact that few members appeared to be available to hold Executive positions and the ones that were on the Executive had served for many years in various positions and would like to leave the Executive.

Please see Steve's letter in this edition.

After the meeting was closed, Bob Beckett showed an interesting presentation on a mine in Brazil which was one of the talks recorded at the Dallas Symposium 2014. Bob has similar talks from this Symposium, and promised to show them at a later time if members so wished.

This was followed by one of Tom Jenkin's Silent Auctions.



### NEXT REGULAR MEETING

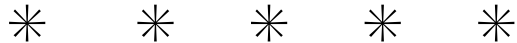
Date: November 10, 2015

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: New Activity Centre, Peterborough Zoo

Program: To be announced.





## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Dear KRFC Members:**

January is approaching fast and it will be time to elect a new Executive. I am asking you to give some serious thought to putting your names forward to fill these positions. As you know, there are a few of us "veterans" who have been filling these over the years and have been recycled in and out of these as the need became apparent. This coming year, however, will be different and the KRFC will, I believe, be facing a real crisis. If you value the KRFC and have enjoyed the social gatherings, scientific learning and field trip excursions then it is now time to step up to the plate and volunteer your time.

Many of us on the Executive, myself included, will not be filling these positions in the coming year for a variety of reasons. My daytime job requirements will not allow me the time to continue as President and the other Executive members have equally valid reasons.

It has been suggested that one option would be to terminate the Club as a legal corporate entity and that we could just meet informally once a month. The obvious problem with this though is that we would no longer be insurable and would therefore not be able to gain access to many current collecting sites. This would also prevent us from hosting the Spring Rock and Fossil Show for the same reason. The Club as we know it will cease to exist.

Am I sounding a bit alarmist? Absolutely, because the Club really is at risk of folding if you don't help out this time. Please, give this your consideration.

Steve Wesley, President  
KRFC



## THE FOSSIL CORNER 2015 Fossil Collecting -Trip 5 By Kevin Kidd

**Saturday, September 26**

This was my first trip back to my regular hunting grounds in a few months, but surprisingly little had changed. I headed to the bottom right away and did a quick check around the water pit. There wasn't anything I hadn't seen before. I moved around to another old pile and had a bit better luck. In the area I cut out the crinoids early in the summer, I found another one. Unfortunately this one will need to wait for a "desperation day" as it will not be easy to extract. Continuing climbing this pile, I once again proved that a spot can never be totally picked over as, at the top on a flat rock, plain as day, was another rare cyclocystoid (Figure 1, to the left of the trilobite,

page 2). This is my second one in three trips, third overall, after going several years between my first and second.

Just as I found that, Jabali arrived and headed to the next pile over where he had been finding carroids recently. That was enough to get me over there as I've never found a complete one. A lot of fruitless rock splitting later, I gave up and tried the pile beside the ramp and ran into Malcolm who was there with a couple from Ohio. I talked to them for a bit, searched in vain a bit longer then cut out my cyclo and headed up to climb around on the crush pile. It was decent climbing conditions, but generally, the finds were pretty insignificant for the first little while until..... Did you ever have the feeling you were being watched? I must have because as I was climbing down one gulley, something made me look behind me and there sat a perfect enrolled *Flexicalymene* (Figure 2). At this point, I would have been happy with an average one, but this has no discernable damage, which is certainly the exception to the rule. A couple more ascents and descents and I was done. A pair of prizes for a half day of work, so I was pleased.



Figure 1.  
Rare cyclocystoid to left of trilobite.



Figure 2.  
Enrolled *Flexicalymene* trilobite.

### Sunday, October 25

Better late than never, this was the annual trip to Bowmanville. A lot of people were wondering if it would happen as this was several weeks later than normal, but the weather cooperated and we ended up having a pretty decent day. After the quarry manager's safety talk, he escorted the 28 of us down to the pit and we scattered. Within 15-20 minutes, the first saw fired up and for a change, it was mine. I cut out what I'm hoping will be a complete *Isotelus* trilobite, but there is a lot buried (Figure 3). There is also a decent sized snail nearby so it would be a nice association piece if it all works out the way I'd like it to.



Figure 3.  
*Isotelus* sp. trilobite, right, with snail, lower left corner.



While going to my car for the saw, I also found another trilo, likely a *Flexicalymene*, but the more I look at it, the less confident I am that the head is buried (Figure 4).

I spent quite a bit of time on level 2 while most others were down deeper as I've had more luck here than anywhere else. As I would later find out, deeper was a lot more productive on this day. I did still find a couple of other things on level 2 such as a *Dictyonema* graptolite colony (this particular one was very shaley and fragile, but I picked up another much more stable example of the same species later on) (Figure 5, below left) and a conularid (Figure 6, below right).



Figure 4.  
Possibly headless *Flexicalymene* sp. trilobite.



Figure 5.  
*Dictyonema* sp. graptolite colony.



Figure 6.  
Conularid.

What I was hoping for was a complete *Pseudogygites latimarginatus* trilobite (sound familiar Don Doell???) but despite a lot of pieces of them around, the closest I saw was this negative, also on very fragile shale (Figure 7).



Figure 7.  
Negative of trilobite *Pseudogygites latimarginatus* in fragile shale.

After that, I went down to level 3 and started talking to some other collectors. All the “someone found .....” and “Did you see so and so’s ....” had me wishing I’d come down earlier, but it’s the luck of the draw. Barb and Derek Tatler were the first to show me their finds and they were impressive (Figure 8, next page).



Figure 8.

The “bug” on the right is only a negative impression, but the others are more or less complete. The complete ones are *Isotelus* “*mafritzae*” (the negative is a *Ceraurus*) and they are most often found with at least one eye missing. They (the Tatler’s) were the second people telling me of someone finding two slabs, each with a pair of *Isotelus* on them. That someone was my friend David D’Andrea and before long I ran into him and Malcolm and he showed them to me (Fig 9, below).



Figure 9.



After that, although I kept looking, I wasn't finding much. I talked to a few others about what they were finding, then headed down to level 4. Malcolm and David were busy freeing another *Isotelus* so I wandered around and finally found something I've looked for from this quarry for several years –a crinoid crown. There are plenty of stems around, I saw one that had to be a metre long, but crowns (calyx and arms) are uncommon at best. While the one I got is complete, it was found unfortunately in thin shale, so it is just on a flake of matrix. I'm going to have to set it in a base of drywall putty or grout or something similar before I try to clean it.

I didn't get a chance to talk to everyone, or see all that was found, but from those I did speak with, it seemed that they all had a good day. I also got some great news before leaving, but I'll have to elaborate on that later, although some of you already know what it is.

Until next month –Happy Hunting!

Photos taken by Kevin Kidd.



### THE MEMBER'S CORNER Celestite Crystals

The photo to the right was taken by Peter Lee after a field trip to the Thorold Quarry with the Walker Club.



Celestite Crystals



### THE EDITOR'S CORNER

Many thanks to Kevin Kidd for his excellent article with the included photos and to Peter Lee for his excellent photo of Celestite crystals. Of course I thank my dear

husband, Ken for his continual participation in proofing and distributing the newsletters.

Over the years I have been editing the newsletters, (September 1995 - September 2002 and February 2011 to the present) many members have contributed their articles and even their time. I can remember Suzanne Cheesebrough and Catherine Dufort producing and distributing the June 1997 issue when Ken and I had to be away on business.

Ken's and my years in the Club have been good ones, but all good things must come to an end. We are both becoming older and have decided not to renew our memberships in the Club in 2016. Taking into account the fact that Steve Wesley will not be standing for President in 2016, Ulli will not be standing for Field Trip Co-Ordinator, Ken will not be standing for Secretary/Treasurer and I will not be standing for Newsletter Editor, Librarian or Archivist, plus who ever else will no longer put forth his name, there are several positions on the Executive that will need to be filled.

As our President Steve Wesley so aptly pointed out, either other members step forward to stand for the elections to the Executive at the 2016 AGM or you can say goodbye to an incorporated Club, or possibly, any Club at all.



#### COMING EVENTS

Courtesy of the CCFMS Website

- Nov 7** Walker Club Annual Auction  
Knox United Church in Scarborough. 2569 Midland Avenue (at the northeast corner of Shepard and Midland).  
Event Hours: Viewing starts at noon, auction at 1:00 pm.  
A great opportunity to acquire fine and affordable rocks and minerals, display specimens, lapidary items, fossils, books and more.  
Contact: Frank Ruehlicke at 519-880-2716 or [ruehlicke@rogers.com](mailto:ruehlicke@rogers.com)  
Website: [www.walkermineralogicalclub.com/](http://www.walkermineralogicalclub.com/)
- Nov 14** Canadian Micro Mineral Association Fall Workshop  
Burlington Arts & Cultural Center, 1333 Lakeshore Road, Burlington, ON, Canada  
Cost: \$25.00, which includes a continental breakfast  
Contact: Frank Ruehlicke at 519-880-2716 or [ruehlicke@rogers.com](mailto:ruehlicke@rogers.com)  
Website: [www.canadianmicrominerals.ca/](http://www.canadianmicrominerals.ca/)
- Nov 12-23** Robert Hall Originals Open House "12 Days of Christmas"  
138 Sugar Maple Road, St. George, Ontario  
Event Hours: Monday to Saturday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm; Sunday: Closed  
Canadian made pewter gifts & jewellery for Christmas gift giving.  
Experience Christmas shopping in a relaxed country setting! Rock'n Discounts of 20% to 40%! Free Coffee & Treats! Help us fill our "Chew Chew Train"! With a New Toy or Food Bank donation receive a ballot for a chance to win one of 12 Local Holiday Gift Prizes!

Website: [www.roberthalloriginals.com](http://www.roberthalloriginals.com)  
Email: [inquiry@roberthalloriginals.com](mailto:inquiry@roberthalloriginals.com)

Dec 9

Rock, Gem, Mineral, Fossil, and Meteorite Identification Clinic at the ROM.

Royal Ontario Museum School Groups Lunchroom, President's Choice Entrance on Queen's Park, doors nearest Museum subway stop.

Event Hours: 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm.

Contact: 416-586-5816 or [naturalhistory@rom.on.ca](mailto:naturalhistory@rom.on.ca)

Website:

[www.rom.on.ca/en/activities-programs/events-calendar/rock-gem-mineral-fossil-and-meteorite-identification-clinic](http://www.rom.on.ca/en/activities-programs/events-calendar/rock-gem-mineral-fossil-and-meteorite-identification-clinic)