

Voice of the Dinosaur

Newsletter of the Kawartha Rock and Fossil Club Inc.

Member of the Central Canadian Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CCFMS)

Founded 1977

Incorporated 1985

November 2008 - Volume 20 – Issue 9

President

Bob Beckett
705 748-0178
rbeckett@numet.com

Vice-President

Steve Wesley
705 743-9175
swesley@netscape.ca

Treasurer

Brenda Beckett
705 748-0178
brendabeckett@hotmail.com

Secretary

Position Open

Field Trip Coordinator

Fred Hall
705 742-6108
fred.hall001@sympatico.ca

Newsletter Editor

George Thompson
613 395-5896
TrueNorthMiner@AOL.com

Show Coordinator

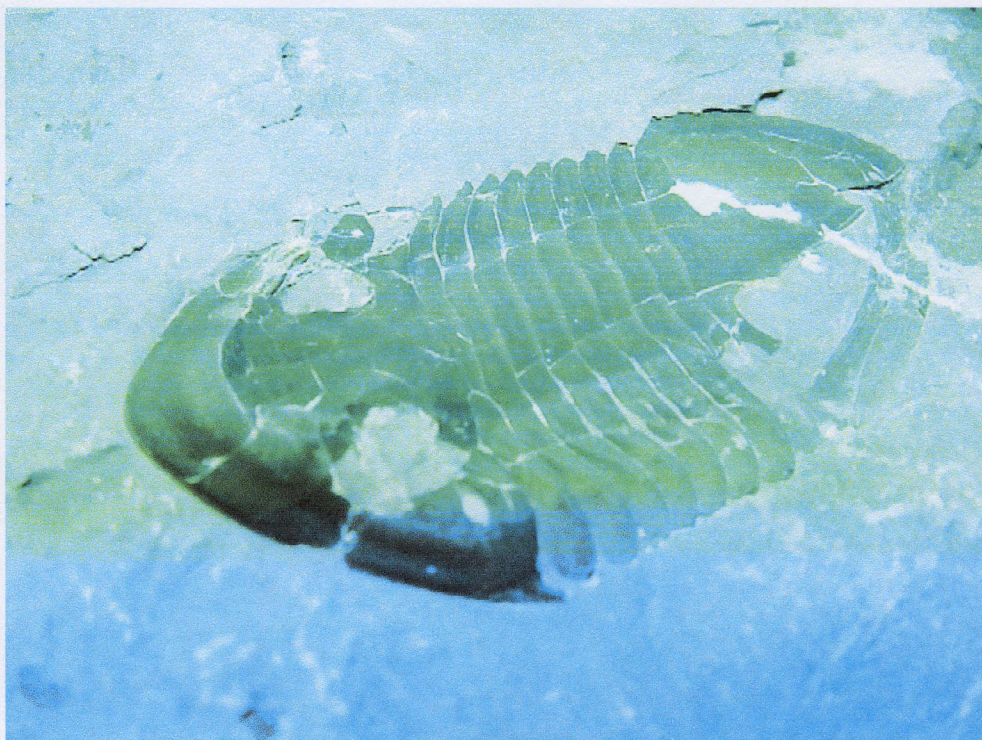
Mark Stanley
705 639-2406
mark.stanley@sympatico.ca

Web Site:

www.rockandfossil.com

Next Meeting:

Tuesday November 11 at the Orientation Centre,
Peterborough Zoo, 7:00 PM



Trilobite

Level 4, St Marys Cement, Bowmanville

Collected by Peter Lee, October 5, 2008.

Photo submitted by Peter Lee

New at the ROM

Stan Nowicki sent in a notice of some new exhibits at the Royal Ontario Museum.

Opening October 25 "The Nature of Diamonds" presented in the Garfield-Weston Hall and sponsored by De Beers Canada.

Opening in December "Light and Stone: Gems from the Collection of Michael Scott" Gems with few rivals outside of royal collections.

Opening in December ... the one all of us mineral collectors have been waiting for!! ... Three new permanent galleries: The Vale Inco Limited Gallery of Minerals, the Gallery of Gold and Gems, and the Canadian Mining Hall of Fame Gallery. 3000 minerals, gems, and meteorites will be on display.

Now open is the James and Louise Temerty Galleries of the Age of Dinosaurs. I have seen this gallery and it is definitely worth more than one visit.



Oppenheimer Diamond

This large pale yellow diamond of 253.70 carats was found in 1964 at the Dutoitspan Mine near Kimberley, South Africa. It is rare to see such a well-formed octahedral crystal in a stone this size. It is transparent, with only a few black inclusions. Harry Winston purchased the diamond and donated it to the Smithsonian Institution in memory of Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, chairman of the board of De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd. from 1929 to 1957. This is one of the items on display in the Nature of Diamonds exhibit.

Source: By CAITLIN MCCORMACK
Posted: 10/22/08 4:34PM on AOL

Virus Warning

The October Issue of the Voice fell victim to a virus on my computer. This sophisticated virus attempts to steal credit card information from the computer user by displaying a fake Windows Security Center Screen. It tries to get you to download an antivirus program called Antivirus 2009. **Do Not Download and Do Not enter your credit card information !!!.**

The screens Antivirus 2009 display are identical to the Windows XP Security Center screens. It fakes a virus scan of your computer and shows a fake list of viruses infecting your computer. It also fakes a windows crash by taking over your screen saver and displaying the expected windows "crash and reboot screens" The virus also randomly blocks access to websites by faking virus activity. The only clue that made me suspicious of Antivirus 2009 was that some of the warnings of viral activity used poor English grammar. Removal of this virus is very difficult.

I think I got this virus through a malfunction of my mouse. Recent developments in virus programs makes it possible for virus writers to place fake buttons on legitimate websites which can cause a user to inadvertently download a virus. If possible verify the security of websites using anti spy ware software. Also make sure that your antivirus program is up to date.

Careful !!! (by Tony Steede)

The Toronto Gem and Mineral Show holds three shows in Toronto each year. Your club (The Walker Club ed) has usually manned a booth at the spring show, which has been held at the community center in the "Peanut Plaza" on Don Mills Rd., north of Shepherd Ave.

Several members have recently mentioned that after filling out information cards at this show, for what they thought was a draw for a free mineral, they have been called and told that they have won a prize – usually something like a free cruise in the Caribbean. The "kicker" is that the recipient of the prize must give the caller a credit card number. The callers are very persistent and if the recipient isn't interested in such a prize an alternative is offered, always with the requirement that the recipient provide the caller with a credit card number – to hold the prize or to pay the taxes on it which are (conveniently) not covered by the supposed prize giver.

Giving out credit card numbers is extremely dangerous and we can only speculate on the possible fraudulent purposes for wanting such information.

Members are reminded that it is unwise to ever provide such personal information to unknown individuals.

More Fraud

Fraudsters hire people, typically in third world countries where labour is cheap, to place bogus nominal charges against randomly generated credit card numbers. Since most of these numbers are not valid, the charge is rejected by the credit card company. However, if the charge is accepted, then the fraud artist knows they have a genuine card number.

With the valid card number, the fraudster places a telephone order to a merchant for a large quantity of merchandise to be shipped to a foreign address. It is not until weeks later when the charges show up on a credit card customer's account that the scam is realized. If the merchant has failed to verify the card (through visual inspection or through a verification code printed on the card) then they loose the proceeds from the sale as well as the merchandise they shipped.

This fraud was perpetrated on several merchants in Tucson a few years ago. This is why many merchants will not accept credit card information over the phone as payment, particularly if the merchandise is to be shipped out of country.

Always check your credit card statements thoroughly and investigate any suspicious transaction, even if it is for a small amount. Never give your credit card number out to unknown individuals and never give out the card verification number over the phone. This is a 3 to 4 digit number printed (not embossed like the longer card number) on the back of the card.

New Find At Marmora

On the October 5 trip into Marmora, I returned to a rock that I discovered during our September trip. This rock had a few seams of calcite containing purple axinite. Associated with the axinite were a few patches of purple fluorite and large but crude crystals of pyrrhotite. This is the first time I have seen axinite at Marmora. Liz and John Fodi said that they found axinite approximately 10 years ago but not in the quantity or quality found in this boulder. I have started to etch away the calcite on some of the samples and have some mauve axinite crystals to 3 cm. Associated with the axinite are some small (to 3 mm) light green vesuvianite crystals and larger (to 5 mm) pyroxene crystals.

This rock was located in the large pit immediately east of the crusher. It appears that Aecon is using this pit to dump their unwanted rock. Rocks containing sulfides (pyrite, marcasite, and chalcopyrite) and rocks containing carbonates (calcite, marble) cause quality problems in the crushed material that Aercon produces. This is good for the mineral collectors since these are precisely the rocks that have the highest specimen potential. Most of the rock dumped in this pit appear to be high carbonate such as calcite and marble. There were very few garnet or epidote rocks in the new dump area.

Axinite is a group of triclinic borosilicates which have the general formula $A_3Al_2BSi_4O_{15}(OH)$ where $A = Ca, Fe^{2+}, Mg, Mn^{2+}$. This is the only boron containing mineral found at Marmora so far. Further analysis will be required to determine which member of the axinite group this mineral is. I suspect that it will be ferro-axinite.

George Thompson

Geologists Find 'Dinosaur Dance Floor'

Source: The Associated Press
Posted: 10/21/08 8:42AM on AOL

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) – Geologists say they have discovered prehistoric animal tracks so densely packed on a ¾-acre site that they're calling it a "dinosaur dance floor."

The site along the Arizona-Utah state line offers a rich new set of clues about the lives of dinosaurs 190 million years ago.

Back then, large stretches of the West were a Sahara-like desert. More than 1,000 tracks were found in what would have been a watery oasis nestled among towering, wind-whipped sand dunes.

The footprints could provide fodder for researchers trying to understand dinosaurs that survived in what many considered a "vast, dry, uninhabitable desert," said Marjorie Chan, professor of geology at the University of Utah and one of the authors of a new study of the site.

"Maybe it really wasn't as lifeless as we think," Chan said Monday.

The discovery adds yet another site to the region's long list of dinosaur hot spots. The difference, though, is sheer numbers. Scientists estimate there are more than 1,000 tracks at the site, which is in a protected area of Vermilion Cliffs National Monument.

In some places, there are a dozen footprints in a square yard.

"It was a place that attracted a crowd, kind of like a dance floor," Chan said.

Researchers identified four different kinds of tracks in the rock but haven't determined the specific species that left them behind.

Some of the footprints — once thought to be potholes formed by erosion — measure 16 inches across and have three toes and a heel. Others are smaller and more circular.

The area also includes what researchers think are rare tail drag marks.

Winston Seiler, who studied the site for a master's thesis, said the area might have been a popular gathering spot for adults and youngsters alike. It could have been one of many where Early Jurassic dinosaurs stopped for refreshment before moving along.

Seiler imagines dinosaurs were "happy to be at this place, having wandered up and down many a sand dune, exhausted from the heat and the blowing sand, relieved and happy to come to a place where there was water."

The study's findings were published in the October issue of the journal *Palaios*.

"It's an exciting site and deserving of a lot more work," said Jim Kirkland, Utah's state paleontologist, who was not involved with the study.

He hopes paleontologists begin a large-scale survey of the site to better understand what's there and what stories the tracks might tell.

Dinosaur tracks can provide important insight about dinosaur behavior and movements across the landscape, said Andrew Milner, paleontologist at the St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm in southwestern Utah.

The newly discovered site, about three miles from the nearest road, is part of a protected wilderness area that also includes a geologic formation called "The Wave" — a gallery of striped, twisted sandstone.

Twenty permits are issued each day to enter the area. Linda Price, the monument's manager, expects interest in the area will jump with word of the dinosaur track site.

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2008

Meeting Date	Special Activity
Nov 11 th 2007	TBA – This is YOUR chance to make a short presentation to the Club on a mineral or Fossil related topic of your choice. If you need a little help putting together a presentation contact any member of the Club's executive, we would be pleased to help where we can. Looking forward to hearing from YOU!
Dec 9 th 2007	End of year party and bragging session. Bring along your best finds of the year, newly acquired specimens or just a really neat specimen from your collection and tell us all about them.

Coming Events (from the CCFMS Website)

Oct 25-26 University of Waterloo Earth Sciences' Annual Gem and Mineral Show

Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5. University of Waterloo Earth Science Museum, Waterloo, ON.

Features: This years theme is "International Year of Planet Earth". Carvings, minerals, gemstones, rocks, fossils, lapidary, jewellery, etc. As well there are Sunday afternoon lectures and activities for kids.

Contact: 519-888-4567 x32469

Website: <http://www.openhouse.uwaterloo.ca>

Nov 2 Walker Club Annual Mineral Auction

Sunday 12 - 3:30? Waddington's Auctions, 111 Bathurst Street (at Adelaide), Toronto, ON. Preview at noon with the auction to begin at 1 pm. This annual event is the main fund raising activity of the Walker Mineralogical Club. Members may submit items to be auctioned.

Features: 120 items including quality and unusual specimens, equipment (microscope, U.V. lamp, tumbler, display case), and reference books. Free admission and everyone is welcome. Cash only for purchases. Refreshments will be available. The auction usually runs for 2 1/2 to 3 hours but absentee bids can be left with and bid by one of the executives if a participant must leave early.

Website: <http://walkermaneralogicalclub.com>

Nov 14-16 49th Montreal Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show

Fri. 4 pm-10pm, Sat. 10 am-7pm, Sun. 10 am-5pm. Hippodrome de Montréal / Blue Bonnets

Admission: Adults \$7, Seniors \$6, Students \$5, under 12 free with adult

Features: 80 + dealers offering: precious gems, minerals, fossils, carvings, tools, books, beads and beading supplies, jewellery and jewellery supplies.

Website: <http://www.montrealgemmineralclub.ca/pages/AnnualShow.html>

Nov 15 CMMA Fall Mini-Conference

The Burlington Arts & Cultural Centre, 1333 Lakeshore Road, Burlington, ON

Nov 22 - 23 London Gem & Mineral Show

Sat. 9am-6pm, Sun 10am-5pm.

Western Fairgrounds (Western Fair Entertainment Centre - Special Events Building). Highway #401 to Highbury exit North, west on Florence, North on Rectory - Main entrance immediately on right hand side.

Features: Over 35 dealers, demonstrators and educational talks.

Admission: Adults \$5, Children \$2

Contact: Ken Dardano 519-846-5836 or ken.dardano@sympatico.ca

Website: <http://www.gemandmineral.ca/>