Voice of the Dinosaur

Newsletter of the
Kawartha Rock and Fossil Club

October 2013 ~ Volume 25 ~ Issue 8

CLUB ADDRESS:
1211 Kenneth Ave.
Peterborough, ON
K9J 5P8

PRESIDENT
Robert Montgomery
705-432-2039
robertm@bell.net

VICE-PRESIDENT
Steve Wesley
705-743-9175
swesley@i-zoom.net

TREASURER (to Jan. 2014)
Ken Fox
705-742-6440
kfox 71@cogeco.ca

SECRETARY
Bev Fox

FIELD TRIP CO-ORDINATOR
Ulrike Kullik
705-778-3787
ulrike.kullik@gmail.com

SHOW CO-ORDINATOR
Donald Doell Jr.
514-923-8545
donald.doell@collectorsmatrix.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Bev Fox
705-742-6440
kfox71@cogeco.ca

PAST PRESIDENT
Mark Stanley

WEB SITE:
www.kawartharockandfossil.com

WEBMASTER: Bob Moore
donald.doell@collectorsmatrix.com

Member of the CCFMS

LAST REGULAR MEETING
September 10, 2013

The meeting was called to order by the President, Robert Montgomery. Minutes were approved as given. Committee reports were read and approved.

The program for the evening was presented by Ken Fox, who, gave a comprehensive view of the geological time scale by using a clothes line rope and sheets of paper listing some key known events of various ages with spaces between the papers representing the vast amount of the unknown.

Tom Jenkins held a silent auction.

NEXT MEETING

Date - October 8, 2013
Place - Orientation Centre, Peterborough Zoo
Time - 7:00 pm
Agenda - Regular business meeting. The Constitution requires that the Constitution and Bylaws be reviewed at this meeting. If you believe any changes should be made, please contact the President if you cannot be present at the meeting, or bring the subject up at the meeting. The meeting will be followed by one of Tom Jenkins' popular silent auctions.
Program - Speaker for the evening will be Michael Bainbridge, Recreational Geology Project Coordinator for the Ontario's Highlands Tourism Organization.

One of the major achievements of the Recreational Geology Project has been the creation of a series of informational products which detail how and where to find information about new collecting opportunities and property rights status in Ontario. Michael will review the "big wins" of his work with Ontario's Highlands, walk through some of the key informational resources of interest to collectors, and introduce the Recreational Access Toolkit which has been designed to aid in access negotiations with private landowners.
Bob Beckett

MORE ABOUT OUR SPEAKER, MICHAEL BAINBRIDGE

Bio thanks to Bob Beckett

Michael Bainbridge has combined his passion for the Earth Sciences with his skills in production and communications to forge a career in developing and promoting an interest in geology – the story of our Earth. As the Recreational Geology Project Coordinator for the Ontario's Highlands Tourism Organization, he led a three-year development project to enhance geologically themed experiences in the area commonly known as the "Bancroft Collecting Area". Having initially trained as a filmmaker, Michael worked as a Cameraman and Director of Photography in film and television for ten years before switching to shooting things that don't move; he now specializes in photographing mineral specimens and works of art for museums and private collectors.

Michael is a frequent guest speaker and lecturer on all topics geological and photographic, in venues from Westward Look and the Tucson Main Show, to Fleming College and his local elementary school. When he has money left from renovating the century home he shares with his wife, Brigitte – or time left over from playing with his young daughters, Naiomi and Clementine, he can usually be found in the field, adding to his own collection of Canadian minerals.

THE FOSSIL CORNER

2013 Fossil Collecting - Trip 4

By Kevin Kidd

<u>Sunday, July 28</u>

With the wife and kids away camping (I had to work all week), I took advantage of the freedom and made my first trip of the season to Western NY. Along the way, I picked up KRFC member David D'Andrea who has recently relocated to Port Colborne, and together we headed to the Penn Dixie site. I wrote about the specifics of this site in my December 2012 article, so I won't bore you with that again. We met my friend Carmine there, a local who I've collected with several times, and started working.

Basically, we spent several hours prying big rocks out of the layer and turning them into little rocks. I didn't do so hot, with a few loose brachiopods and a couple of possible complete trilobites, but David found a nice prone *Eldredgeops rana* with an enrolled example right beside it, as well as another solitary enrolled specimen (Figure 1).

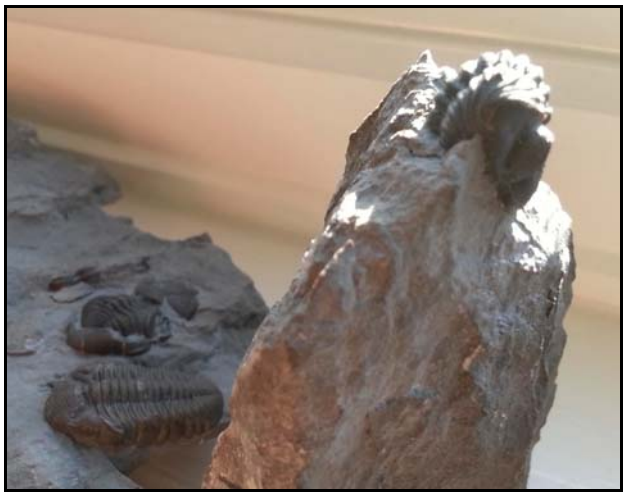

Figure 1.
Eldredgeops rana

I did find what would have been an impressive coiled cephalopod, had it been complete. It looked like one of the goniatites/ammonoids from Arkona, but this one would have been about 4"/10 cm in diameter. There was enough there to identify it, but not enough to bother trying to save.

We lasted until about 3:00pm before heading out for pizza and wings, then Carmine took us to another nearby site called Smokes Creek. I had been there once before with him, but we were both novices then and it wasn't anything great. This time, he'd gained plenty of experience and we went to a different area. It was a fair hike through the creek, not along – through, and nobody found anything complete, but there were lots of partial trilobites, so plenty of potential for future visits. We even saw where someone had saw cut a piece out – which must have been something great to justify lugging a saw all that way. We then headed in the opposite direction and came to a layer with a large amount of concretions. It was on one of these that I finally managed to find something new for my collection. Sure, it's only a bivalve, *Cornellites flabella* I believe, but I love the shape and hopefully it will prep out more (Figure 2).

Figure 2.
Cornellites flabella

Before we left, Carmine gave me an enrolled *Eldredgeops* he'd found, more out of pity than anything, since I hadn't found a nice one myself this trip. What a wonderful way to end a great day. On a depressing note, the other nearby site, 18 Mile Creek, has been posted with "no trespassing" signs, and the police are busy giving out tickets to violators. There are apparently some areas where collecting is still OK, but I'm not sure I want to risk it. Another spot gone, a phrase we know all to well. Oh yeah, the wait at the border SUCKED coming home, not that I'm bitter or anything.

<u>Saturday, August 3</u>

Another quick ½ day trip to my regular spot, mainly to pick up a crinoid I'd won on Ebay from the other regular collector at the site, Jabali. I just focused on the new blast area at the top as usual, and it was slow going for a while. I met Jabali up there, but he wasn't having any luck either, so he headed down to the bottom pit. I stayed put and I'm glad I did. Not long after he left, I found a near complete prone *Calyptaulax* trilobite (Figure 3). His tail goes off the edge of the rock, and I had no hope of finding the mating piece, which is a shame because it would have been a stunner if it were complete. Still, I took it home as they are an uncommon species to find articulated.

Figure 3.
***Calyptaulax* trilobite**

My next find wouldn't impress most people, but I was thrilled. Several years ago in this general area, before I got Bill Hessin's books and knew what I had, I found a rock with unusual bryozoan colonies on it. I cut out a decent sized piece for myself and left the rest. A friend, who has collected the area for years, was shocked when I showed him, as he had never found any. He identified it as *Constellaria* and drove four hours from Arkona the next day, just hoping I had left some. He was very happy to find that I had. Anyway, that one rock held the only examples I had ever seen before today. I found a tiny colony on a small slab and spent a while looking for more, but to no avail

(Figure 4, below). As I understand it, *Constellaria* is quite common in the Cincinnati and Tennessee areas, but is VERY rare up here.

Figure 4.
***Constellaria* bryozoan colony**

Figure 5.
Prone *Flexicalymene* trilobite

I wasn't done yet, either. As I combed the pile, I found what turned out to be the best *Flexicalymene* I'd found in a long time. In all my trips to this quarry, this is only the second quality prone specimen I've found, compared to at least a couple of dozen enrolled examples. I've found a few other prones as well, but they always seem to have some damage. I should have taken a before pic, but this one had the head completely encased in rock, all I saw was the central axis and left side. Once I started prepping, I could see that it's complete and pretty much perfect (Figure 5, above).

On my way out, I had one last find, and all you mineral folks can appreciate it as well. I had never seen this preservation here before today, but I found a *Flexicalymene* head completely covered in tiny pyrite crystals (Figure 6). I don't generally keep loose Flexi heads as they are very common, but this one just had to come home with me. I guess I should also show the whole reason for my trip, the crinoid, a beautiful example of *Praecupulocinus conjugans* that Jabali had found in the bottom pit (Figure 7).

Figure 6.
Pyritized *Flexicalymene* trilobite head.

Figure 7.
Praecupulocinus conjugans

Friday, August 23

With weekend plans, I went up to the quarry after work. By the time I got there, I had a little over three hours of daylight remaining, so it was straight to the new area at the top again. Every time I go, this area has changed; this time there had been a new blast and they'd bulldozed a bunch of the older material. The old stuff was clean and there was plenty to look at, but the newly blasted material was very dirty. The search began but finding anything worth keeping proved to be a real challenge. For the first two hours, all I pocketed were a few loose brachiopods, bivalves and maybe a gastropod. Then the fossil gods smiled on me again, when, within a couple of feet of each other, I found a pair of prone *Flexicalymenes* (Figures 8 & 9). They are in the fragile shale, and I doubt they would have survived much longer exposed to the weather.

Figure 8.

Figure 9.

As I stood up from where these were found, I saw I was not alone. Yet another collector I'd met before was trying his luck in the quarry. Paul (I hope that's right – I'm horrible with names) is a KRFC member as well, but doesn't get to many meetings as he lives in Ohio (*Ed. Note, Paul Regel*). He got the membership basically to get access to Bowmanville in the fall. Anyway, we spent most of the remaining time chatting while we searched. I didn't find anything else worth mentioning, but Paul got an *Edrioasteroid* and a couple of trilobites, or at least the majority of them, a *Ceraurus* and a *Bumastoides*. Neither was complete, but the *Ceraurus* especially was still too good to leave behind. With the sunlight dimming, I made my exit a bit after 8:00pm. One good thing about collecting in the evening, it starts off warm but it gets cooler the longer you're out.

Until next month – Happy Hunting!

Figure 1- photo courtesy of David D'Andrea.
All other photos by Kevin Kidd.

THE MEMBERS' CORNER
For Crinoid Out Loud!
Fossil Collecting Tips (Part 3)
By Martin Legemaate

It's been a while since the last two fossil collecting tip articles were published (See newsletters September and October 2011). This one not only covers spotting and collecting but also prepping fossils. As many of you collectors (painfully) know, fossils are usually embedded in hard rock and without the proper fancy prepping tools, the fossil usually remains obscured in the rock matrix; but did you know that fossils can be found in clay and loose shale too?

Much of the sedimentary rock layers in Ontario consist of inter-bedded limestones, shales, sandstones and clay. I discovered this several years ago when visiting the Arkona and Hungry Hollow area, in-between limestone beds are clay beds where intact fossils are just falling out of them (Figure 1). No hammer required!

Figure 1.
Brachiopods in clay.

The Verulam Formation is another good example of inter-bedded rocks that are exposed in many areas of Central Ontario. (See Bill Hessin's book, *South Central Ontario Fossils* for great Verulam Formation fossil sites.) Care is needed but some of the best and easily accessible sites are road cuts.

Here are a few tips I learned when collecting at a road cut near Lindsay (Figures 2 and 3) which rewarded me (with) some great crinoid stems, one being 13½ inches long!

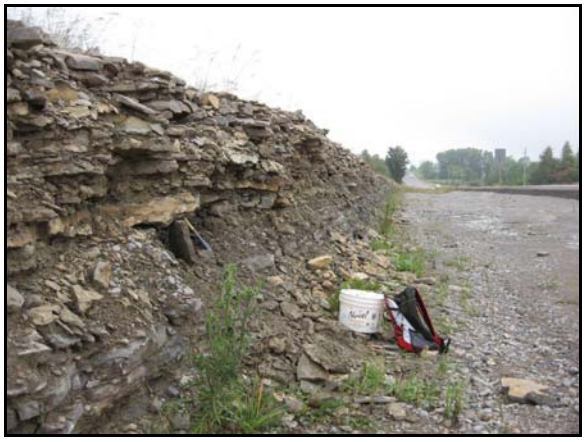

Figure 2.
Lindsay Road Cut exposing the Verulam Formation.

Figure 3.
Clay Bed Outlined in Red.

Some clay beds may be completely devoid of fossils while others are stuffed full. The best thing to do is walk along the cut and look for fossil debris that has fallen out of the rock face into the *talus* (the sloping mass of loose rocks at the base of the cliff).

Where there are several fossil bits, look up on the face and find anything sticking out of the clay seam or seams. Dig around the fossil until it pops out. If it is a crinoid stem continue digging while removing each crinoid section and placing it in a container. (I use an egg carton and put about three crinoid sections in each egg cup so I can better assemble it at home again.) Eventually the stem will dead end. (Due to the turbulent environment when most of the sediments were laid down in Ontario you will rarely find a complete crinoid.) Don't forget, there can be loose fossils in the talus, too, usually exposed after a good rain (Figure 4).

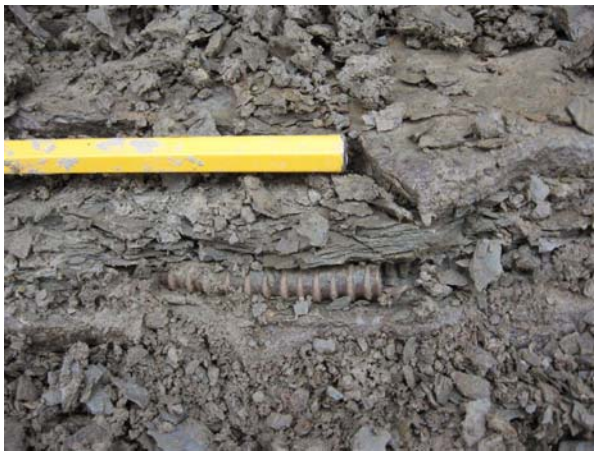

Figure 4.
Crinoid stem just peeking out of the clay. Pencil shows relative size of stem.

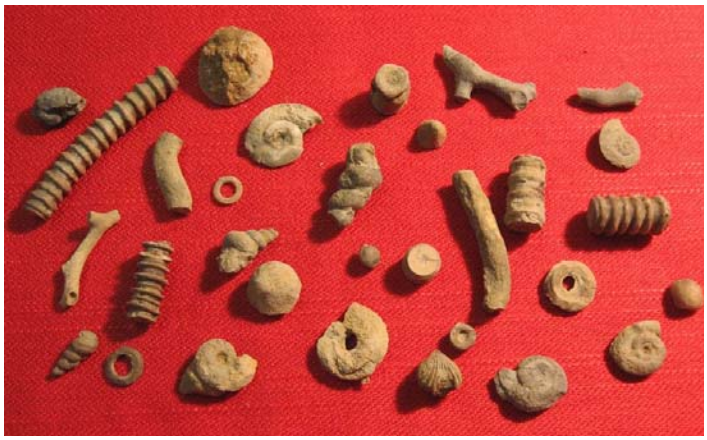

Figure 5.
Assorted fossils after cleaning which include gastropods, branch and mound bryozoans, crinoid stem sections and brachiopods.

Now the prepping process. The fossils will simply need a rinsing of water and perhaps a light wet brushing and then a rinse (Figure 5.) I use old tooth brushes.

The crinoid stems will need a little more care so I will concentrate on them now.

1) Lay out the stem pieces on a table in a row approximately the same way you collected them. Figures 6 and 7 show crinoid stem pieces laid out before brushing and washing.

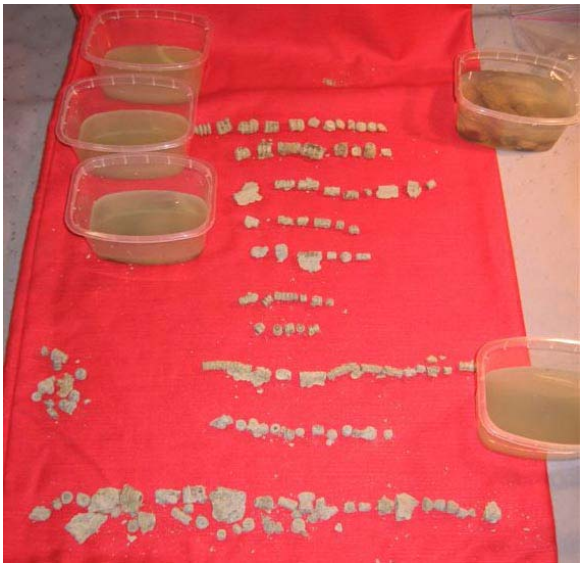

Figure 6.

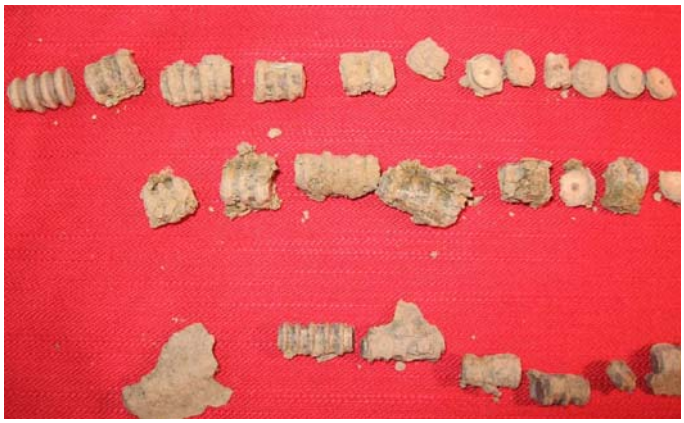

Figure 7.

2) Wash each section by wet brushing and then rinsing. I use magnifying glasses #2 and #4 that you can purchase at Dollaramma to get a closer look.

3) Lay them in a row again and let dry.

4) If you like jig saw puzzles then this stage is for you. Like snow flakes, no two crinoid breaks are alike plus each break has a negative and a positive side to it so the connection is easily identifiable with practice. Also, the ribbed crinoids are more tapered on one side so you will know what direction to lay them out in. When you start to find a few matching pieces use a very small amount of crazy glue and hold the sections together for about 15 seconds. Repeat until every piece is matched up again. It is a lot of work but the result is breathtaking. Figures 8 and 9 show the crinoid stems (*Archaeocrinus*) after prepping.

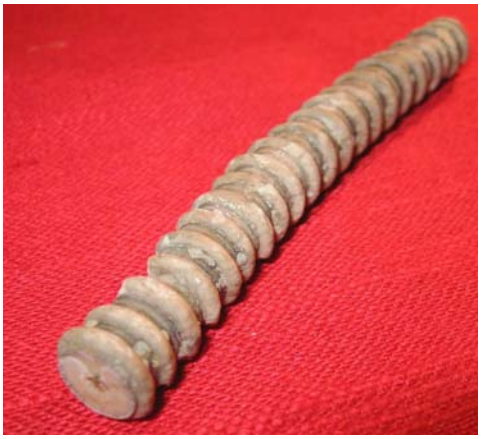

Figure 8.

Figure 9.

All photos by Martin Legemaate.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂ ⁂ ⁂ ⁂ ⁂

IN REMEMBRANCE
Jack Kauffman
By Mark Stanley

On Thursday, September 12, 2013, Jack Kauffman passed away in Ottawa. He was 92 years old. Jack was a member of our club for many years.

I first met Jack and his wife Merle in 1985 when they attended their first Kawartha Rock Club meeting. They had just moved from Oshawa to Norwood. When we realized that we only lived a couple of miles from each other, Jack and I agreed that we should go rock collecting together.

The next Saturday, we started by exploring the rock cuts on County Road 46 north of Havelock. I drove and he navigated, this arrangement would continue throughout our friendship.

On our second field trip he presented me with his five foot long steel pry bar, painted blaze orange, on the condition that I would always bring it along when we were

collecting. He painted all of his collecting tools orange to make them easier to find while collecting.

Jack's interest in minerals was very broad, but he always had a great interest in geodes and he liked his specimens large. I never saw him use a magnifier to look at a rock. If he could not see a crystal with his naked eye, it did not interest him. Once after a long and very productive day collecting in the north pit of Steetley Quarries at Dundas, we were faced with the very long walk uphill out of the quarry back to my truck. We both had collected much more than we could carry out, and because of the distance a second trip was out of the question. Jack's criterion to select what he would carry out was simple: "if it does not take at least two hands to pick it up, it isn't worth taking home". The rocks that he chose to leave behind were left neatly piled for the next collector to find.

We also attended a lot of rock shows together. One of his favorites was the large show every October in Detroit. We made the trip many times, traveling there on Thursday afternoon, so we could be first in line when the show opened Friday morning. His favorite part was the 75 to 100 display cases, just to admire the beautiful specimens that other collectors owned.

One year we took a week in September and drove to Denver, Colorado to take in a group of mineral shows. Two and a half days driving one way, and we talked about rocks all the way there and back again.

Jack grew up exploring the Humber Valley in Toronto, here through his love for nature he started to collect rocks. His other collections included butterflies, moths, insects and bird eggs. As a young man he developed an interest for electronics and all things mechanical. Over his lifetime he would build a substantial collection of vintage radios, phonographs and gramophones.

He and Merle also amassed a huge collection of 800+ porcelain teapots, and one of the largest collections of lady vase heads in North America.

They spent the winters of their retirement years in the American southwest, based out of Arizona. They could take in the mineral shows of Tucson and Quartzite and still haunt the flea markets and antique shops.

Jack was predeceased by his wife Merle and his daughter Dianne. He is survived by his sons, Ross and Grant and their families.

⁕ ⁕ ⁕ ⁕ ⁕ ⁕ ⁕

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

To all KRFC members

This is a reminder that the KRFC memberships are due for renewal. Please fill out the membership form attached to this Newsletter and pay, either at a meeting before December 31, 2013 or send in your payment with the form. Please note, it is not

sufficient to say "Same as last year" primarily because if an issue should arise with the insurance company they will require properly filled out and signed application forms.

For family memberships, please indicate how many membership cards are required (and names) as very young children will be with parents while older ones may want to attend meetings, go on field trips, etc. independently.

Thank you.
Ken Fox, KRFC Treasurer **kfox71@cogeco.ca**

EDITOR'S CORNER

My thanks to Bob Beckett for his interesting biographical sketch of our October speaker, Michael Bainbridge; to Kevin Kidd for one more of his excellent articles; to Martin Legemaate for his helpful article on collecting and cleaning fossils; and to Mark Stanley for his thoughtful remembrances of Jack and Merle Kauffman. It is sad, indeed, to realize they are now both gone, but those of us who knew them, have good memories of them.

Due to other commitments, Bob Moore has retired as Webmaster. He took over knowing very little about websites, but learned on the job and produced and maintained an excellent website. Our grateful thanks go out to him.

COMING EVENTS

Oct 16 Mineral Identification Night at the ROM
4:00pm to 5:30 pm.
President's Choice Entrance on Queen's Park, doors nearest Museum subway stop.
Website:
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

Oct 19-20 **44th Annual Gem Storm. Show and sale sponsored by the Kingston Lapidary and Mineral Club.**
Sat 10:00 am - 6:00pm, Sun 10:00am - 5:00pm.
Portsmouth Olympic Harbour, 53 Yonge St., Kingston, ON.
Features: Over 30 dealers; Children' mine, Jewellery Workshop
Information: Contact Les Moss, Show Chairman at emoss@cogeco.net

Oct 25-26 **Annual UW Gem & Mineral Show**
Time: Sat Noon to 6:00 pm, Sun 10:00am – 5:00pm
University of Waterloo campus, Centre for Environmental & Information Technology (EIT) building
Admission & Parking: Free
Website: https://uwaterloo.ca/earth-sciences-museum/

Oct 26 **Walker Club Annual Auction**
Sat 1:00 pm to whenever.
Knox United Church Christian Education Centre Auditorium in Scarborough. North East corner of Sheppard and Midland Avenues.
Information: Contact: Bill Lechner at 416-438-8908 or bill.lechner@rogers.com
Website: www.walkermineralogicalclub.com/

KAWARTHA ROCK & FOSSIL CLUB INC.
2014

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION _____ or RENEWAL _____

Please complete ALL sections and PRINT CLEARLY.

NAME(S): ……

.....

(If a family, list each person's name - parent/legal guardian followed by children. Please include children's ages.)

ADDRESS: .....

.....

(CITY) (PROVINCE) (POSTAL CODE)

Please sign here .....

Phone #: .... Fax #: ....

E-mail: .....

(Please print clearly so all letters, numbers and punctuation marks can be easily read. Thanks.)

SINGLE [ ] ($20.00/yr) **FAMILY [ ] ($25.00/yr)**

Please send newsletters by: Email [ ] Fax [ ] Snail Mail [ ]

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES OR MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO
THE KAWARTHA ROCK AND FOSSIL CLUB INC.

If paying by mail, send to:
The KRFC Treasurer - 1211 Kenneth Avenue, Peterborough, ON K9J 5P8.

DO NOT SEND CASH THROUGH THE MAIL.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Paid by: Cheque [ ] Cheque # ..... or Cash [ ] $.....

Date:..... Membership Card Issued [ ] Mailed [ ]

Renewal memberships are due by December 31, 2013 . Members who do not renew before the Annual General Meeting in January are dropped from the membership list so will not be able to participate in KRFC or CCFMS field trips or other Club activities and will not receive the newsletter.

If you want your information kept confidential, please do not complete the following section.

I hereby give my permission to release my name, telephone number and email address for inclusion in a KRFC Contact List to be issued only to KRFC members in good standing.

Signed: ..... Date: .....