



Voice of the Dinosaur

Newsletter of the
Kawartha Rock and Fossil Club

September 2013 ~ Volume 25 ~ Issue 7

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**LAST REGULAR MEETING**

June 11, 2013

The meeting was called to order by the President, Robert Montgomery. Minutes were approved as given. Committee reports were read and approved. Tom Jenkins held a regular silent auction and the meeting was then closed. This was followed by the evening's presentation.

The original speaker for the evening, David Webster, Senior Conservation Geologist for the Ministry of Natural Resources, was unable to attend. However, John Etches, M. N. R., Ontario Parks gave an interesting presentation entitled "Do Geology/Geomorphology/Geological History Have Any Bearing on the Character of an Ecosystem?" He answered the question by demonstrating how geology, geomorphology and geological history have influenced the development of different ecosystems and how this in turn has influenced settlement by people leading to farming, city building, and development of various industries. This fact has, to some extent, been overlooked in the literature and education on the history of many areas.

NEXT MEETING

Date - September 10, 2013

Place - Orientation Centre, Peterborough Zoo

Time - 7:00 pm

Agenda - Regular business meeting

Program - Ken Fox will give a presentation on the appreciation of geological time.

Bring some of your mineral and fossil finds from the summer months to brag about to your fellow members.

Tom Jenkins is once again collecting clean, clear milk bags for use in the Kids' Auctions at the Annual Rock, Mineral and Fossil Show for 2014. You can give them to him at the Club meetings.

Thanks.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CORNER
Swap & Talk - Special Social Event
Sunday, September 29th 2013
10:00 am to 2:00 pm



Location: Stanley Auction Centre

56 Alma Street, Norwood, ON K0L 2V0

Directions: From the traffic lights on Highway 7 in Norwood, travel one block south on County Road 45, then east three blocks on Alma Street. The Centre is attached to the Curling Club and is about 500 m north of the Community Centre.

NOTE: It is not located on the 11th line, as Google Maps indicates.

Doors open at 9:00 am, everyone who wants table space be there before 10:00 am.

Free admission, and no charge for the table space. Simply donate a specimen to be used in our March 2014 Show silent auctions, to show your appreciation for the table space and hosting of this event.

There will be tables available at 9:00 am on a first come, first served basis, but it is recommended that you reserve your space in advance to avoid disappointment.

**For table reservations contact Mark Stanley, Past President KRFC,
fulgurite@bellnet.ca 705-639-2406.**

Members & family and guests are welcome, especially those who may be interested in becoming a member of any club.

Kawartha R&FC, Bancroft G&MC, Kingston L&MC, Prince Edward County RG&MC and Haliburton GS and other club members welcome.

Bring all your collected specimens, Finished or Not, anything you want to Give-A-Way, Swap, Sell or just Display & Brag!

Bring your rocks & fossils, there will be space for all, they don't have to be show quality to be appreciated. I'm sure there will be a story with every rock & fossil you bring.

For the members who have only small collections, we especially encourage you to bring them along as you do not have to fill a large table. There will be many tables set up to share with one or more of your fellow members, if you wish.

Come out and help make this a memorable social event.

Bring your own lunch.

For more information contact Robert Montgomery, President KRFC, robertm@bell.net

THE FOSSIL CORNER

2013 Fossil Collecting - Trip 3

By Kevin Kidd

Saturday, April 27

OK, I realize April isn't exactly summer, but my last article was long enough and I never got around to writing about this particular trip until after it was submitted. This was just another routine trip to my usual spot and again, I was joined by a host of other fossil freaks. Our group consisted of me, my paleontologist friend, a pair of museum curators from Quebec, and another collector from up north, Jabali, who rivals me for amounts of visits to the quarry. There was a recent blast, but it was still quite dirty. I didn't find anything in it, but after some splitting, my friend found a few cystoids. There was another pile in the bottom pit that myself and Jabali worked on. This was the first time I'd spent any real amount of time in a small area splitting the limestone at this quarry. From this pile Jabali ended up with a slab containing a small starfish and a couple of small, rare trilobites –either *Meadowtownella* or *Hemiarges*, and for my trouble, I came away with my first full (hopefully) crinoid crown from this site (Figure 1). Since the upper levels are quite shaley, the best chance of finding a complete intact crinoid is from a large rock in the bottom pit.



Figure 1.

Likely an *Archaeocrinus crinoid*, you can see the stem and parts of the feathery arms. Hopefully there's a calyx just under the surface.

Saturday, May 18

As I was in the area for other reasons, I just had to stop at Arkona for a bit of collecting. I only had about two hours in the South pit, with a decent bit of that time spent talking with another regular collector, but one just can't help but find a few pieces to keep. I pocketed plenty of button corals, a few decent brachiopods, my first couple of slipper corals and, just before my time was up, a nice *Hyperblastus filosa* blastoid (Figure 2). That last piece capped my day quite nicely.



Figure 2.

The "slipper" corals, *Xenocyathellus thedfordensis* look like "button" corals that have been stretched to a horn coral shape.

Saturday, June 1

Another new site for me today, so I was a bit excited. As part of the Carden Nature Festival, Fred Hall is the leader of a fossil hunt at a quarry, this year held at the LaFarge quarry in Brechin. This site was closed to collectors before I started my hobby, so this was my first time there. Since that event didn't start until 10:30 am or so, I killed some time by doing a quick check of my regular spot. It was a good

news/bad news situation when I got there. Bad news—the top level, south side had been covered in topsoil for rehabilitation—another collecting area gone forever. Good news—they've started blasting the top level, north side, for expansion (Figure 3). This level is where the majority of the enrolled trilobites are found in the fragile shale. I didn't find anything great, just a few big fat bivalves, but there will be some great days ahead.



Figure 3.
The new blast area, and probably my new favorite spot in the quarry.

Around 9:30, I met Fred and Ulli at the LaFarge gate. We went in and met Gary Innanen who was going to be talking geology as part of the festival, but couldn't find anyone else who knew what was going on. Around 10:00 am, we finally met the coordinator and talked to her over coffee and donuts until the busload of people arrived around 10:30 am. We had the prerequisite safety talk, as well as a brief geology lesson from LaFarge's resident geologist, then piled on the bus and went down to the collecting area. For such a huge quarry, the biggest in the area, the area they had zoned off for us was pretty small, but I guess you've gotta take what you can get (Figure 4).



Figure 4.
Collectors searching for keepers at LaFarge's Brechin quarry.

I had lots of people asking me to identify what they'd found—mostly brachiopods and burrows, but I wasn't finding much until I came upon a couple of small crinoids (Figure 5). Ulli had the find of the day with a nice juvenile cystoid, *Pleurocystites squamosus*. There were a couple of damaged *Ceraurus* trilobites seen in large rocks, but these were not able to be extracted. After our time was up at LaFarge, I took Ulli, Fred and Gary back to the other quarry for a bit. Gary was floored by the amount of fossils here as opposed to where we'd just come from. He wound up with quite a number of common pieces—as giveaways for kids, but none of us hit the jackpot. We left just before the skies opened up, but I'm already itching to get back there when I can have a full day in the new blast area.



Figure 5.
One of the small crinoids found. You can't beat the Bobcaygeon formation for finding echinoderms.

Saturday, June 15

Not a real hunting trip, per se, but for the second year in a row, I attended the open house at St. Mary's cement in Bowmanville. This is the quarry that allows us one day to collect in the fall. The open house is a day of food, games for the kids, food, displays, a plant tour, food, and a small fossil collecting area (Figure 6, Page 5). Did I mention that you won't go home hungry??? I brought several examples of fossils either from Bowmanville or, if from another site, things that could be found at

St.Mary's and I had a booth set up in the pit. Last year was fairly slow, but this year, once the busses started coming down, there wasn't too much free time for me. A lot of people were interested in my pieces and the local geology, and kids were continually coming and asking me if what they had found was a fossil. With the exception of a lady who told me my fossils were only about 12,000 years old, not the 450 million years I was telling people, the day went off without a hitch. Looking forward to the annual collecting trip back here.



Figure 6.
Lots of excited hunters, but nobody claimed the 1/2 trilobite near the front edge of the pile.

Saturday, July 20

After a scorcher of a week, and a storm Friday night, I went up to my regular quarry bright and early hoping the rain had rinsed some of the dust off the piles. As usual, I headed straight for the new blasting area on the upper level and for a change, today it wasn't a waste of time. There were several heartbreaker trilobites—nice, prone specimens but with enough damage that I didn't pick them up, but my first find was a bryozoan. It is a largish section of *Stictoporellina*, one of my favorites (Figure 7). These are always found fragmentary, and I keep anything I find of significant size, which isn't much. It popped off the matrix and can now be prepped from both sides, but it is VERY fragile.

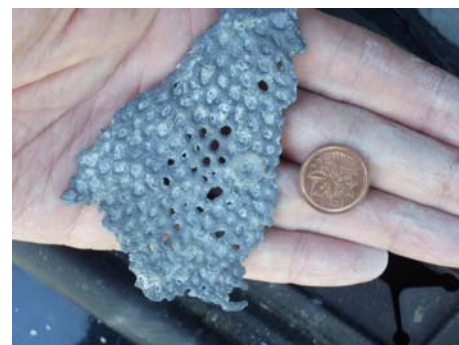


Figure 7.
Section of bryozoan *Stictoporellina*.

Next, I came across an *Isorophusella edrioasteroid*. It isn't big, and since this is the area I'd expected to find them in, I was surprised it took me so long. A couple of weeks ago, my friend David had found a beautiful cephalon (head) of a rare *Dolichoharpes* trilobite (Figure 8) in this area, and today I managed to find at least the frill of not one but two specimens (Figure 9).



Figure 8.
Found by KRFC member David D'Andrea and prepped by Malcolm Thornley.



Figure 9.
One of the two *Dolichoharpes fringes* I managed to find.

I'm hoping at least one is a ventral positioned example and the rest of the cephalon is buried in the rock, otherwise it's been sheared off.

In the middle of finding these two pieces, I noticed I had company. Markus Martin from Yale University, and his brother-in-law Brian Dasno had made the trip up from New York and they brought a small group from the Natural History Museum of London (England) for a day of collecting. Brian does fossil prepping, and I wouldn't hesitate to use him on anything I'm not comfortable tackling myself. The Brits were amazed by the amount of fossils to be had, but considering the cost of overseas shipping, they had to be picky about what they kept. Not long after we met, one of them, Dr. Tim Ewin made the find of the day with a rare starfish, likely a *Salteraster* or a *Urasterella* (Figure 10). No question about keeping that one. They were specifically looking for edrioasteroids and did eventually find an example, along with a nice enrolled *Flexicalymene* trilobite.

Before leaving this area, I found my own Flexi in matrix (Figure 11), a great pair of edrios on a brachiopod (Figure 12) and



Figure 10.
It blends in well with its surroundings, but the starfish is right in the center.



Figure 11.
'Flexi' in matrix.



Figure 12.
'Edrios' on a brachiopod.



Figure 13.
Pair of *Ceraurus* trilobites.

my best find in a while, a pair of *Ceraurus* trilobites—one damaged specimen is laying across the back end of what I hope is a beauty (Figure 13). A quick visit to the crush pile yielded me one more enrolled trilobite but then the others had to get going, so I called it a day as well. Plenty of pieces now to prep, I just need to find the time to do it. That's enough for now, more later.

Until next month – Happy Hunting!

THE MEMBER'S CORNER

Here are a couple of items Peter Lee, one of our members found in Hungry Hollow earlier this year. Both items are pyritized. The photos were taken by him.



The section of cephalopod is one inch long.



Starfish *Devonaster triradiatus*
Approximately 10 cm across.

In early May, Peter also found fragments of Placoderm bone which appear to be from a skull from the Late Devonian (Kettle Point Formation). Here is the public link to those pictures:

www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.542949842435402&type=1

He has also begun a series of Face book pages and invites you all to view them:

Ediacaran:

www.facebook.com/groups/135107530006053/

Cambrian:

www.facebook.com/groups/248051158671768/

Ordovician:

www.facebook.com/groups/432722986818346/

Silurian:

www.facebook.com/groups/177170029102953/

Devonian:

www.facebook.com/groups/523986287665091/

Carboniferous:

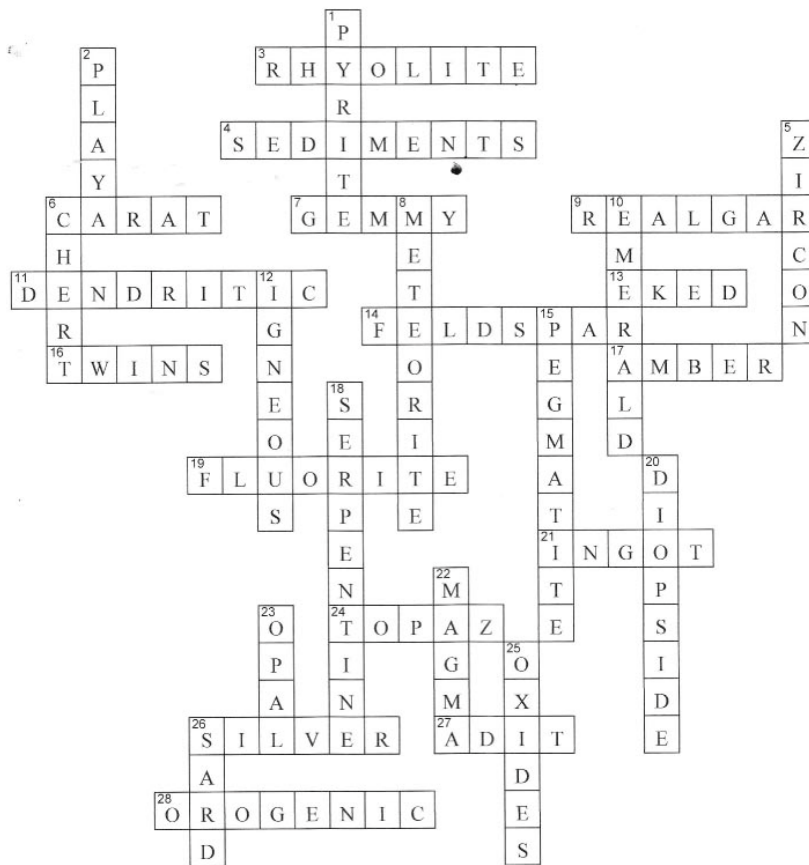
www.facebook.com/groups/532779990093786/



THE PUZZLE CORNER

Here are the answers for June's crossword puzzle. If you would like to see more crosswords, let me know.

Thanks to Sue Kehoe for the puzzle.



THE WEBSITE

Be sure to visit the Website to learn more about Club activities and sign in to the message board to read and post messages.

THE EDITOR'S CORNER

My thanks once more go out to Kevin Kidd, who artfully uses his photos and prose to make an article on a routine field trip into something of an adventure for his readers.

I thank Peter Lee for allowing me to use his excellent photos and I urge the readers to check out his Facebook pages.

As always I thank my husband Ken Fox for offering suggestions and patiently reading over each Newsletter to spot mistakes before it goes to print.

Don't forget to mark September 29 on your calendars. The Swap & Talk event promises to be lots of fun. If you can take a table alone or with a friend, do so. If not, just come along and enjoy the day.

COMING EVENTS - 2013

Courtesy of CCFMS Website.

- Sep 14-15 **Wonders of the Earth" - The 44th Scarborough Gem & Mineral Club Show**
Saturday 10:00 am-6:00 pm, Sunday 11:00 am-5:00 pm.
Don Montgomery Community Centre, 2467 Eglinton Avenue East,
Scarborough, ON
Admission: adults \$5.00, children \$1.00
Contact: Gem & Mineral Club of Scarborough scarbgemclub@lycos.com
Website: www.scarbgemclub.ca
- Sep 21-22 **47th Annual Ottawa Gem, Mineral and Jewellery Show & Sale**
Saturday 10:00am-6:00 pm, Sunday 10:00 am-5:00 pm.
60 + dealers
Nepean Sportsplex
1701 Woodroffe Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario
For more information check out Web Site: www.olmc.ca
or send an email to dealerchair@olmc.ca or showchair@olmc.ca
- Sep 27-29 **Ancaster Gem, Mineral, Bead & Jewellery Show**
Ancaster Fairgrounds, 630 Trinity Road, Ancaster, Ontario (corner of
Hwy. 52 & Hwy. 53).
Friday: 9:30 am to 6:00 pm
Saturday: 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
Sunday: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Admission: \$8, under 12 Free
Try on the latest in fashionable jewellery. See crystals, fossils &
magnificent rocks from all over the world!
Shop at over 30 dealers.
Take a free seminar on rocks, fossils or crystals.
Contact: inquiry@roberthalloriginals.com (519) 448-1236 or
1-800-360-2813
Website: <http://www.roberthalloriginals.com> and click on Shows and
Events. E-mail: rockshow@roberthalloriginals.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: