



ROCK PICKENS

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB

Date: March 2014

March 2014

The March meeting will be held on Wed, March 5th at the Canton library, 6:00, pot luck dinner, before meeting. Bring a dish to pass and table service.

President: William deLorraine

Vice President: Scott Sutherland

Secretary: Joanna deLorraine

Treasurer: Chris Sutherland

Field Trip Coordinator:

Jerry Curcio

Newsletter Editor: Bill deLorraine

Webmaster: Glenn Simonelli

2014 Membership Dues from August 2013 to August 2014

**Please make sure we have your
current e-mail address**

We strive to send all newsletters
by e-mail

**315-287-4652 or
wdellie@gmail.com**

**Please mail dues to: Chris
Sutherland; Treasurer, 287 Cty.
Rd. 29, Canton, NY 13617**

Single Membership: \$10.00.
**Family Membership: (Family
members under the same roof at
the same mailing address):
\$20.00**

THE CLUB'S WEBSITE:

www.stLawrencecountymineralclub.org

Upcoming Shows 2014

March:

8-9: Clifton, NJ - 25th Annual Clifton/North Jersey Gem & Mineral Show, Sponsored by the North Jersey Mineralogical Society. 10am - 5pm at the Pope John Center, 775 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ

22-23: Hamburg, NY - 46th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil Show sponsored by the Buffalo Geological Society. The Fairgrounds Market & Grange Buildings, Hamburg, NY.

22-23: Sayre, PA - 45th Annual Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club Show will be held on March 22 (9-5) and March 23 (10-4). Held in the Athens Twp. Vol. Fire Hall, Sayre, PA Contact 570-928-9238 uvbob@epix.net

April:

5-6—FREEPORT, NEW YORK: Show and sale; Kaleidoscope Gem Shows; Freeport Recreation Center; 130 E. Merrick Rd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5.50, children (12 and under) free; dealers, minerals, gems, jewelry, fossils, beads, goldsmith and silversmith; contact Ralph Gose, PO Box 1418, Melville, NY 11747, (631) 271-8411; email: Ralph_gose@kaleidoscopegemshows.com; Web site: www.kaleidoscopegemshows.com

5-6—JOHNSON CITY, NEW YORK: Annual show; New York Southern Tier Geology Club; Johnson City Senior Citizens

Center; 30 Brocton St.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; adults \$3, children (under 12) free; club exhibits, silent auctions, dealers, minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry, beads; contact Al Conklin, 187 Forest Hill Rd., Appalachian, NY 13732, (607) 625-4140; e-mail: allanconklin@aol.com

11-13 -- NY-NJ Mineral and Fossil Show:
www.NY-NJgemshow.com

24-27 - 41st **Rochester Mineralogical Symposium**; Radisson Hotel, Rochester Airport at 175 Jefferson Road, **Rochester**, NY 14623

Available now: "Collector's Guide to the Minerals of New York State" by Drs. [Steven Chamberlain](#) and [George Robinson](#). It's listed on Amazon.com. We should consider buying multiple copies through the club; half the price to be paid by club member, half thru funds. Cogitate on this and we'll vote next mtg.

Minutes from the Last Meeting.

The last meeting was held Feb. 5th with four people attending. The treasurer's report was read by Scott Sutherland. Bill announced that Jerry Curcio agreed to be our Field Trip Coordinator. He will head up the Herkimer trip. We need a volunteer for Program Coordinator. Please let Bill know if you would be interested in helping with this. The Rochester Symposium is coming up April 24-27th. Dealer invitations to our annual show will go out in early April. There was much talk about getting more involved and recruiting new members. Bill talked about the club members maybe putting together specimen boxes at an upcoming meeting. Everyone must have something kicking around that they could donate. We would have someone purchase the boxes and decide on a date to do this.

Please send articles that you would like included in the upcoming newsletters to: wdellie@gmail.com



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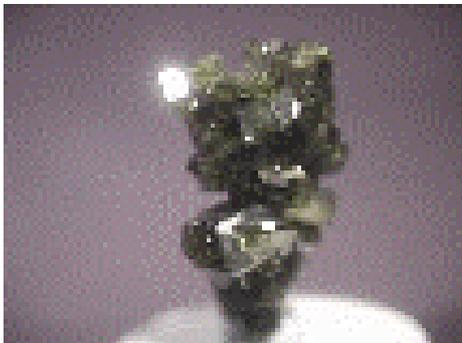
Date: March 2014

2014 UV Light Bottle Drive:

This past year we conducted a fund-raising campaign for purchasing additional black lights for the "Kids Fluorescent Mineral Hunt" headed up by Dino Zack, Dr. of things fluorescent and glow in the dark. Dino has done a wonderful job over the years for the club. Many thanks to Dino from all of us! We purchased two new lights this year; one from contributions and another donated by club member Bruno Balduci. Let's regenerate in 2014!

Mineral of the Month:

UVITE:



Uvite was once considered to be a very rare member of the [Tourmaline Group](#), but it has since become widely available on the mineral markets. Other more common and more well-known tourmalines are [schorl](#) (black, opaque and iron rich) and [elbaite](#) (various colors, transparent to translucent, used as a gemstone and lithium rich). Less common tourmalines are [dravite](#), [liddicoatite](#) and [buergerite](#).

Uvite is the magnesium/iron-rich member of the group and has one notable exception to the typical tourmaline generalized formula. The usual 6 aluminums are reduced to 5, with a magnesium inserted into one of the aluminums' positions. Despite having so many coloring ions like iron and magnesium, some specimens of uvite can be colorless. The typical specimens of uvite on the mineral markets tend to be an interesting dark green to almost black in color. Other properties of uvite seem to fall in the norm for a tourmaline, except uvite tends to form stubby crystals rather than the long prismatic crystals of its close cousins. These crystals, though, are well formed and show all the interesting features that make tourmaline crystals so much fun to collect.

Uvite is a noted skarn mineral. The skarn is a term for a rock that is the product of a chemically unusual magma body that has intruded into and recrystallized a "dirty" limestone. The "dirty" limestone is not composed of just [calcite](#), CaCO_3 , like "clean" limestone but is mixed with silicates and/or phosphates, etc. This mixing of the hot, chemically unusual liquids and volatiles of the magma with the different minerals of the "dirty" limestones produces some interesting and rare minerals after all the recrystallizing is done.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS:

- **Color** is green, colorless, white, light brown or black.
- **Luster** is vitreous.
- **Transparency:** Crystals are transparent to translucent, some dark
- black specimens can look opaque.
- **Crystal System** is Trigonal; 3 m
- **Crystal Habit** is typically three sided stubby almost tabular crystals. The terminations can be either a simple to complex trigonal pyramid or a flat basal face. The prism faces are striated lengthwise. In cross section, all tourmalines will appear predominantly triangular in shape with some crystals showing a hexagon. Doubly terminated crystals are hemimorphic, meaning that the two ends of the crystal are not exactly alike.
- **Hardness** is 7.5
- **Specific Gravity** is 3.0+ (average)
- **Cleavage** is absent although there is basal parting.
- **Fracture** is uneven to conchoidal.



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- **Streak** is white.
- **Other Characteristics:**
Strongly pleochroic and [piezoelectric](#).
- **Associated Minerals**
include [apatite](#), [sphene](#), [zircon](#) and [quartz](#).
- **Notable Occurrences** are Sri Lanka; [Pierrepoint, New York, USA](#) and in other Skarn localities.
- **Best Field Indicators** are crystal habit, triangular cross-section, locality, environment, color and hardness.

Some quick notes from the Prez; We took in the Albany mineral show this year and as always it proved to be fun and enjoyable. Unlike other years the weather was great making for safe travel. This year we will be making plans to go to Herkimer probably sometime in spring or early summer for the "Guaranteed Pocket" field trip that we've tried to plan for off and on for a while now. Jerry Curcio will be investigating this for us; Mike Whitton also volunteered to assist Jerry with this project.