



# ROCK PICKENS

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB Date: November 2017

## November

## Mineral of the Month for November:

The next club meeting is Wednesday, November 1st at the Canton Library, 6:00 pm; pot luck dinner. Show and tell mineral of the month is: "Pyrite".

See "Hidden Rock Craze"

Mail checks for annual dues to:  
William deLorraine, President  
1 Indian Head Trail  
Gouverneur, NY 13642

## Minutes from the October Meeting:

### Club Dues:

\$10.00 Single Membership  
\$20.00 Family Membership

There were 13 members in attendance at the October Meeting held at the Canton Library. A pot luck dinner was enjoyed by all. We opened the meeting with customary introductions. We welcomed three new members: Paisley Kodama, Trevor Blanchard and Mike McFaddin. Minutes of the October meeting were read by Joanna deLorraine and approved. Elaine Hopper read the Treasurer's report. She thanked Joanna for filling in for her while she was on temporary leave of absence for family matters. Bill went over the table situation at our show, i.e.: pricing for show tables. Vendors setting up of course preferred 8' tables, but on the reservation form it was noted that the tables would be either 6' or 8', depending on availability. Next year Hurlburt's in Massena will be able to supply all the 8' tables we need. There has been much talk from some members about selling unit space such as 15' x15' vs. table space. Bill noted that it was not fair to the person who only had two tables to pay the same as someone with 8 tables fit into the same unit space. There was much discussion about this and we decided to table the talk until a later date.



## Upcoming Shows:

**October 28 – 29, 2017**  
**2017 Rochester Gem, Mineral, Jewelry and Fossil Show & Sale;** Total Sports Experience **435 West Commercial Street, East Rochester, NY.** Sat. 10 to 6; Sun. 10-5.

Bill noted that there were some unpaid late bills that came in to us recently. One was for flowers from a year ago. We also received a bill for the porta potty company for having to call in a driver to re-situate the porta potty which they had originally incorrectly placed at the Canton Pavilion. We have not paid this new invoice yet and there was much talk on if we should even pay the extra charges because the error, we contend, was made by the original driver. The porta potty company indicated they would split the bill with us; as of this printing the primary



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invoice has been paid and we have not heard back from them.

Bill talked some about the show and explained to the membership that most of our revenues from the show depend on selling tickets for the amethyst cathedral drawing and auction proceeds. There was some talk about raising the prices for vendor tables or charging a \$1.00 admission. We decided that we have always prided ourselves as being one of the few-- or perhaps the only show -- that does not charge an admission fee and we will leave it that way for the future. Bill also noted that the show signs are in good shape. We may just need to buy some new "dedicated" signs having directional arrows pre-printed on them instead of using our regular signs and hot-gluing arrows onto those. That way we will have about a dozen extra signs to affix dates on. We voted to expend monies to purchase up to a dozen new signs as there is a current special at the vendor for signs plus bases for ~ \$140. Our show next year is on the weekend of August 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

Bill opened an account at Griff's bottle redemption in Gouverneur and donated the proceeds from a bunch of bottle bags to be kept in the name of our Club's account there. He encouraged others to do also in other towns, such as Canton. We can use the monies to purchase batteries for the black lights used in the kid's fluorescent mineral hunt or the kid's mineral kits or other incidental expenses.

Walworth Quarry open house was Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. Dave LaLonde said everyone who could, should go, it was fantastic last year. We hope Dave had a successful trip and hope to see some of his specimens!

Julie won the drawing of fluorite from Hunan, China. Julie was really surprised and said it was the first time she had won a door prize.

We had "show and tell" featuring Herkimer Diamonds. Bill brought Mike Walter's book on

the diamonds for all to look at. Bill talked about his own personal trip to Herkimer with his family for a "guaranteed pocket". Nobody left disappointed. He spoke about the area they drilled in as being easy to drill, fractured ground and if he had it to do over he would have suggested going over to harder, unfractured rock as the crystals there are in pockets free of mud and gravel and unstained by limonite. All in all, though, it was a truly memorable and fantastic day.

We voted on our annual scholarships to St. Lawrence University and SUNY Potsdam for outstanding academic student achievement in Minerology. We decided to give \$250.00 to each college this year early in December.

**The date for the Christmas Party this year at The Club in Canton is Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm, upstairs.**

We also voted there will be no "dinner stipend". All were in favor. There will be two door prizes.

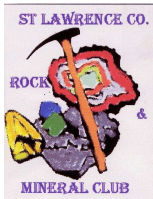
**The choices for dinner at The Club are as follows:**

- Monterey Chicken with mashed and Vegetable is \$13.95
- Broiled Haddock with Rice pilaf and Vegetable is \$13.95
- Primavera Red with Side salad and Garlic Bread is \$13.95
- Prime Rib with Baked Potato and Vegetable is \$17.95

**Must RSVP if attending with meal choice:**

**315-287-4652 or email:**

[wdellie@gmail.com](mailto:wdellie@gmail.com)



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## Hidden Rock Craze

You know the hidden rock thing currently going around the north country? I was thinking about the Mineral Club -- of all the entities around here -- is there any way our club could participate in that? Just for fun? Then I had this idea. We could either do the conventional thing, paint regular rocks... *or...* we could do something that would stand out -- something that would be a little more along the unconventional lines-- like paint diamond drill cores from the Balmat zinc mine. There are lots of them around. For instance, there are oodles of 1 1/2" diameter cores and some larger, 2 1/2" to 3" diameter cores, that we could cut into cylinders or discs for the larger cores, cylinders for the smaller cores. By lacquering one face of the larger discs and the sides of the cylinders, it makes it easy to see the textures and colors of the rocks. They look really cool! We could put the letters "SLCRMC" on them, paint on the ends of the cylinders and opposite sides of the discs, then hide them in various places -- just like other people hide conventional painted rocks. People could try to figure out what "SLCRMC" represents and it might even make the papers, give the club some recognition and make people more aware of our club. Not to mention the educational aspects. What do you think? I welcome your thoughts, suggestions and feedback.

## Directional Arrow Signs

Pictured on the right-hand side of this page are examples of the directional arrow signs we deploy on "Showtime" days to help people to get to the Pavilion with a minimum of consternation. We've been to a few shows where we wish the sponsors had deployed

signs such as these! As of this printing we have received a shipment of 10 signs plus bases from our supplier -- all set for "Showtime 2018"!

