



CRYSTALS AND CABS

Newsletter of the Capital Mineral Club
Concord, New Hampshire

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November 2014

Volume 15 Issue 3

Capital Mineral Club News

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Editors Note:

The **deadline** to get info to me for publication will be the **3rd Saturday** of every month

- My e-mail address:
steffenh@comcast.net
- CMC Website:
www.capitalmineralclub.org
- Website designed and maintained by:
Peter Cram & Steffen Hermanns
- If submitting material to the newsletter the editor requests that it be sent in Microsoft Word format. This will help in getting the newsletter together.

The Capital Mineral Club membership meeting will be on Saturday, November 1st at 2:00 PM at The Salvation Army Building, Concord, NH.

Thank you to Jon Herndon for providing refreshments for the October meeting.

This months Speaker is Fred Wilda. Fred will give a presentation on Minerals of Loudville. See write-up on page 3.

This is a presentation you will not want to miss.

Display Minerals of the month will be Wulfenite and Loudville Minerals

This Months Refreshments will be provided by Anna Wilken.

Welcome New Members

Steven Nathaniel Kidder, Plymouth, NH

Mineral Clubs - Meeting Dates

Saco Valley Gem and Mineral Club: 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Tin Mt. Conservation Center, Albany, NH – 7:00 PM
www.sacovalleygmc.com

Keene: 1st Saturday of each month at Keene State College, Science Bldg. Room SCIC 126, Keene, NH – 7:00 PM
keenemineralclub.50webs.com

North Shore (MA): 3rd Friday of each month, Hamilton Wenham Community House, 284 Bay Rd, South Hamilton, MA – 7:45 PM

Boston Mineral Club: 1st Tuesday of each month, Harvard University Geological Lecture Hall, 24 Oxford St., Cambridge, MA – 7:30 PM
www.bostonmineralclub.org

Southeastern NH Mineral Club: 2nd Wednesday of each month, St John's Methodist Church, 28 Cataract Ave., Dover, NH – 7:00 PM
senhmineralclub.org

Presidential Gem and Mineral Society: 2nd Friday of month at 7: 00 P.M. North Country Education Services Center; 300 Gorham Hill; Gorham, NH



These are the minutes of the October 4th, 2014 meeting of the Capital Mineral Club. The meeting was held at the Salvation Army Building on Clinton Street in Concord, New Hampshire. Called to order at 2:00pm by President Gordon Jackson, there were 27 members present including the speaker Robert Whitmore.

Meeting Minutes: Motion to accept meeting minutes as published in the newsletter made by Bill Adams, seconded by Pat Barker, passed the membership.

Treasures Report: Donald Dallaire presented the treasurers report. A motion made to accept by Carlos Gristani, seconded by Mike Cordero, passed the membership. A Budget for 2015 will be available on the website under the members only section to look at and be voted on at the November meeting.

Field Trips: Harvard Mineral Museum Trip Changed the date to March 14th Brad Lewis made motion, seconded by Mike Cordero passed the membership. Need a Field-Trip chair person to plan trips.

Scholarship Committee: Gordon Jackson has been in contact with DES and Dept of Education to promote our Club and our Scholarship Program.

Old Business: Robert Whitmore was mentioning that the Club is in the process of creating Mineral Identification Kits for Teachers in Earth Science classes to be used to educate students about mineral identification.

New Business: Gordon has Flyer for the August 29-30 Capital Mineral, Gem & Jewelry Show. Note the name change from Festival. This is so the "Show" can be better publicized as a Show. Gordon will make name tags for all the new members who fill out a temporary tag.

New Memberships: Brad Lewis Bow, NH and Michele Marie Johnson Webster, NH. Motion to accept made by Mike Cordero, seconded by Carlos Gristani, passed the membership.

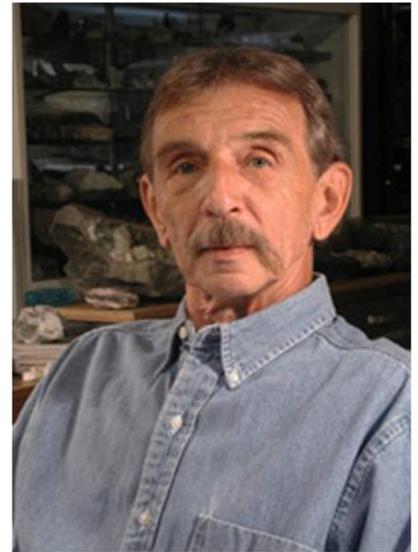
Door Prizes: Donated by, Mike Undercofler, Carlos Gristani, Peter Cram and Jon Herndon. Won by Bill Adams, Carlos Gristani, Doug Peck, Natalie Undercofler, Michele Johnson, Ellen Oberkotter, Steffen Hermanns, Nicolas Hadshi, Peter Cram, Mike Plant, Jody Plant, Kathy Welker, Robert Whitmore, Karla Roth, Edna Whitmore, Jon Herndon and Tony Howd.

Jon Herndon gave his presentation on minerals of the Ossipees before the membership meeting.
Adjourned Meeting at 4:00pm

Respectfully submitted
Steffen Hermanns
Secretary

**Capital Mineral Club
Concord, New Hampshire**

Frederick C. Wilda
Mineral and Nature Artist



Fred is a self-taught artist who has made commercial and fine arts his chosen career since 1959. He became a mineral artist in 1998. His watercolor paintings fall into one of two basic categories...specimen or species. A species painting may require more than one specimen to complete the work. He prefers to work from actual specimens, but when necessary he can use photos. Limited edition prints are made from the original watercolors. Many of his originals are commissions from collectors or museums.

Fred has completed a series of over 130 illustrations for reproduction in a book titled "The Pegmatite Mines Known as Palermo", written by Robert W. Whitmore of New Hampshire. His work has also been included in articles in the Extra Lapis English magazine as well as Rocks & Minerals and Rocks & Gems magazines. Fred was honored to be picked as the "Featured Artist" in the 2004 Mineral and Fossil Show in Munich, Germany. His originals and limited editions prints are in many collections throughout the United States and Abroad. Currently selections of his paintings are in the collection of the Gemological Institute of America in Carlsbad, California.

Fred's passion for art is matched by his obsession for minerals. Avid field collectors, he and his fiancée, Helen Rodak, have a very impressive collection. The challenge of illustrating minerals is fueled by the vast amount of subjects available. Fred's answer to this challenge is "The joy of completing a painting is dwarfed by the anticipation of doing another".

His paintings and limited edition prints are displayed at various Mineral Shows including the Connecticut Valley Mineral Club Show, the East Coast Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show held in West Springfield, Mass, and various other New England Shows.

Fred will be talking to us about the Manhan Lead Mines of Easthampton, Massachusetts. The mines were originally opened in the 1600's and have a long history. Mindat lists over 50 species from these mines. Fred has collected this area for many years and is one of the most knowledgeable collectors of the mines and minerals of the area.

Fred will also give a short presentation on the outreach his club Connecticut Valley Mineral Club does in providing mineral kits to schools and others. This information will certainly be a help to the Capital Mineral Club which is beginning an effort in this area.

**This will be a very informative talk and would encourage everyone to attend.
Minerals of the month will be Wulfenite and in addition the minerals of the
Manhan Lead Mines.**

Wulfenite

Formula: Pb(MoO₄) (Lead Molybdate)

Crystal System: Tetragonal

Crystal Habit: Thin tabular crystals to sometimes blocky or pyramidal crystals

Color: Orange, yellow, red, gray, brown, olive green, black or combination of these colors rarely colorless

Luster: Adamantine, sub-adamantine, resinous **Optical Property:** Transparent to opaque

Streak: White **Hardness (Mohs):** 2.75 – 3 **Tenacity:** Brittle

Cleavage: Distinct/good **Fracture:** Sub-Conchoidal to uneven **Density:** 6.5 - 7.5 g/cm³

Member of: Scheelite Group

Name: Named in Honor of Franz Xavier von Wulfen (1728 – 1805) a Jesuit priest who was a mineralogist and botanist. Wulfen authored a book on the lead ores of Bleiberg, Austria.

Wulfenite is a secondary mineral formed in the oxidized zone of hydrothermal lead deposits. The molybdenum usually is introduced from external sources such as the surrounding rock into which the hydrothermal solutions were introduced. It is commonly associated with cerussite, anglesite, smithsonite, hemimorphite, vanadinite, pyromorphite, mimetite, descloisite and plattnerite. Wulfenite occurs at hundreds of mines throughout the world most notably from Bleiberg, Austria; Mežica, Slovenia Tseumb, Namibia and the Touissit mine in Morocco. Mexico has numerous famous localities including the San Francisco mine in Magdalena, Sonora; at Los Lamentos and Santa Eulaia, Chihuahua and in the Ojuela mine, Mapimi, Durango. In 2006 China joined in with very attractive red to orange wulfenite crystals from the Jianshan Mine, [Bayin'gholin Autonomous Prefecture](#), [Xinjiang Autonomous Region](#). Prior to this find Chinese wulfenites were somewhat mediocre.

In the United States the most famous localities are in Arizona and the list of “classic” wulfenite localities begin with the Red Cloud mine in the Trigo Mountains in La Paz County where the crystals are a deep red color and with some collectors set the standard for the species. Fine crystals came from the Old Yuma mine near Tucson which is now in the Saguaro National Monument which is no longer accessible for collecting. The Glove mine in Santa Cruz County and the Defiance mine in Gleeson, Cochise County are the source of spectacular wulfenite crystal groups. Other locations in Arizona include the Mammoth-St. Anthony mine in Tiger, the Hilltop mine in the Chiricahua Mountains, the Rowley mine in Thebe, the Finch mine in Hayden as well as many other numerous mines. New Mexico’s entry is the Stevenson Bennett mine in the Organ Mountains of Doña Ana County.

There are only two locations in the east where wulfenite is commonly found. One is in the [Phoenixville Mining District](#), [Schuylkill Township](#), [Chester County](#), [Pennsylvania](#). Wulfenite there occurs in orange crystals up to 2-5 millimeters. The mines in this area including the Wheatley mines, Brookdale mine, Pennypacker mine and others are more famous for the pyromorphite specimens of a vivid green color that were relatively common in this mining district. In the Manhan mines, which are the subject of November’s talk, wulfenite occurs in orange crystals up to 5 millimeters. It is particularly attractive when it occurs on green pyromorphite crystals making a striking contrast with their bright orange color.

As an additional note wulfenite does occur in New Hampshire but is extremely rare and in very tiny crystals. The William Wise mine in Westmoreland was the first reported occurrence confirmed by Harvard University in 1994. This specimen was collected by Don Dallaire in 1990 but was with uncleaned quartz specimens for several years until cleaning revealed the wulfenite crystals. In 2008 Gene Bearss collected and identified wulfenite crystals from Mineral Hill in Wakefield. The Madison Lead mine specimen was sight identified. In 2000 Art Smith on a collecting trip with Gene Bearss brought home specimens for investigation under the microscope. In a vug with acicular pyromorphite crystals he observed tiny (<.5millimeters) pyramidal crystals in the vug. A single specimen collected in 2001 by Bob Janules and Vincent Valade had tiny .1 millimeter wulfenite crystals with pyromorphite from the Madison Lead mine. A few other locations have been listed with wulfenite occurring there but there is no information or confirmation at the other sites. Needless to say, wulfenite is quite rare in New Hampshire.



Wulfenite on quartz from Manhan Lead mines, Easthampton, Hampshire County, Massachusetts. Specimen 130 millimeters across with wulfenites 5x5x1 millimeters. Don Dallaire specimen and photos from collection of Inge Burggraf. Collected by Inge in 1974. Insert close up.



Wulfenite on Quartz from William Wise mine, Westmoreland, Cheshire County, New Hampshire. Largest wulfenite 5x5x1.5 millimeters. Don Dallaire collection and photos. Specimen collected 10/20/90. Close up of largest crystal in left photo.

20th ANNUAL VINCENT L. VALADE (12/6/2014) FIELD COLLECTING & CREATIVE LAPIDARY AWARDS

Eleven Award Categories

BEST FIELD COLLECTING

1. BEST NEW HAMPSHIRE
2. BEST NEW ENGLAND
3. BEST OUTSIDE NEW ENGLAND
4. MICROMOUNT
5. **BEST OF SHOW, MINERAL**

BEST CREATIVE LAPIDARY

6. BEST FACETED, SMALL (10mm or less)
7. BEST FACETED, MEDIUM (11mm to 20mm)
8. BEST FACETED, LARGE (21mm or greater)
9. BEST CABOCHON
10. BEST JEWELRY
11. **BEST OF SHOW, LAPIDARY**

RULES

1. Must have been a Club member for the **past year** to enter.
 2. All entries must be **self-collected** or **self-produced** during the past year. Labeling shall not contain the owner's name.
 3. Only **two entries** per person per category. However, we encourage you to bring additional pieces to the meeting.
 4. For **micromounts** only one entry with collector supplied microscope and light.
- Only **Club members present** at the December meeting are eligible to enter and vote.

COMMENTS

The Creative Lapidary category will be set up by one individual, named in the November newsletter, who should be contacted by the participants prior to the meeting. Voting slips will be provided and the entries marked by number and category. Your "best of show" vote will most likely be a repeat of one of your choices. Winners from each category will receive an **engraved label** for their specimen and have their **names mentioned** in the January Newsletter. The Best of Show winners will also receive **engraved plaques** and a **Club sweat shirt** with the year embossed. The plaques are theirs to keep and display until next year's contest when new winners will be chosen and will keep the plaques until the next contest. This allows a history of winners to develop as the years go by. It is your chance to see the best of this past year and hear the stories behind the finds or creations.

These Awards were set up and started December 1995 by Vince Valade. In 2006, categories 9, cabochon and 10, Jewelry were re-fined. Starting in 2007 a new category 4, Micromount and category 7 and 8, redefining Best Faceted was added as well as all winners are to receive an engraved label. At the November 2007 Club meeting the contest was voted to be known as the "Vincent L. Valade Field Collecting & Creative Lapidary Awards".

PAST WINNERS

BEST OF SHOW FIELD COLLECTING WINNERS

1995 Vince Valade, Beryl, Golden Beryl Loc.
 1996 Steffen Hermanns, Grossular, Eden Mills
 1997 Bill & Mary Finney, Beryl, Palermo No. 2
 1998 John McCrory, Magnetite, Eden Mills
 1999 Ernie Schlichter, Barite, Grand Jct., CO
 2000 Robert Whitmore, Epidote, Eden Mills
 2001 James Tovey, Amethyst, Hopkinton, RI
 2002 Dana Jewell, Fluorapatite, Palermo No. 1
 2003 John McCrory, Garnet/Diopside., Orford, Quebec
 2004 James Tovey, Beryl, Tripp Mine, Alstead
 2005 Bill Brown, Pritized Cephalopoda, Alden, NY
 2006 Robert York, Calcite in Clam, Ft. Drum, Florida
 2007 Scott Higgins, Triphylite, Palermo No. 2
 2008 James S. Tovey, Calcite, Walworth Quarry, NY
 2009 James S. Tovey, Beryl, Tripp Mine, Alstead, NH
 2010 Gordon Jackson, Smoky/ Microcline, Teller Co, CO
 2011 Carlos Gristani, Copper, Central Explor, Michigan
 2012 Jon Herndon, Pocket Beryl, Ossipee
 2013

BEST OF SHOW CREATIVE LAPIDARY WINNERS

Bill Brown, 23.70 Ct Fac. Bolivian Amethyst
 Bill Brown, 69.45 Ct Fac. S. American Amethyst
 Bill Brown, 5.72 Ct Fac. Nigerian Aquamarine
 Bill Brown, 3.5 Ct Fac. Palermo Gold Beryl (HT)
 Bill Brown, 22.60 Ct Fac. Mt St Helens Obsidianite
 Bill Brown, 24.60 Ct Fac. Mt St Helens Obsidianite
 Bill Brown, 10.30 Ct Faceted Brazilian Citrine
 Bill Brown, 22.10 Ct Faceted Pink Sapphire
 Bill Brown, 26.80 Ct Faceted Pink Star Sapphire
 Brian Bissonette, 25.70 Ct Fac. Pink Syn. Garnet
 Bill Brown, 24.45 Ct Faceted Spider in Obsidianite
 Bill Brown, 62.65 Ct. Brazilian Quartz with Butterfly
 Bill Brown, 388.30 Ct. NH Smoky Quartz
 Bill Brown 85.30 Ct. Labradorite, Mexico
 James S. Tovey, 30.7 Ct. Smoky Quartz, NH
 James S. Tovey, 12.60 Ct. Green Amethyst
 Larry Welker, 2.15 Ct. Morganite, Brazil
 Kathy Welker, Amethyst pendant
 Peter Cram 5.0 Ct. Aquamarine

DECEMBER 6, 2014 YEAR END GET TOGETHER

SALVATION ARMY, CLINTON STREET, CONCORD, NH

12:00 - 12:30 **BEGIN**, organize

12:30 - 1:30 **SOCIALIZE**, setup, prepare dinner and relax, have fun!!!!

1:00 - 1:30 **VOTE** on the collecting and Lapidary awards

1:30 - 2:45 **EAT** all the good, and I mean good, food that everyone brings

3:00ish **YANKEE SWAP** - good fun

4:30ish **SOCIALIZE**, PICK UP, LEAVE

DRIVE SAFELY AND HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY!

BRING DINNER, DESSERT, AND SALAD PLATES; CUP/MUG & SAUCER, UTENSILS, NAPKINS, SALT & PEPPER, POT-LUCK SPECIALTY & SERVING UTENSILS, HOLIDAY CENTER PIECE IF DESIRED. PLASTIC BAG FOR TAKING HOME DIRTY OR WET DISHES ETC. AND A BIG SMILE.

THE YANKEE SWAP Bring a gift of at least \$5.00-\$10.00 value to do with the hobby, gift wrapped. Each participant is given a numbered ticket. You then chose your gift when your number is called. Before you open your gift you can swap with any member called before you. You can not go back to swap your gift once you have passed a person. The first person called, can at the end of the swap, swap with any other. The club adds a mystery gift to a lucky participant. Come and enjoy lots of fun and nice gifts.

DISPLAYS If you can, bring a display of your summers acquisitions. The object is not to show the best, but to stimulate some conversation and make for good socializing. This is separate from the annual "Best Field Collecting Award" & "Best Creative Lapidary Award". Suggested topics might be:

"THINGS I HAVE COLLECTED THIS YEAR"

"THINGS I HAVE CLEANED OR TRIMMED FROM LAST 10 YEARS" "ACQUIRED THIS YEAR" "MINERALS OF MT. PARADISE"

"MY CHILDHOOD COLLECTION FROM 80 YEARS AGO"

SIGN UP!!! COME!!!

If you have not signed up for a food item or want to know more about the December meeting you can call me Charles Forsberg at (603) 927-4955 or e-mail c_forsberg@conknet.com. Please RSVP if you can. Let's have a good turn out!!

SEE YOU THIS DECEMBER 6th !!!!



Steffen Hermanns

Editor

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Keep on **ROCKIN'** in the Free World

Email: steffenh@comcast.net

WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.CAPITALMINERALCLUB.ORG

Capital Mineral Club Meetings & Events

NOVEMBER 1, 2014

Club Meeting: **2:00PM**
Speaker: Fred Wilda, Minerals of Loudville
Refreshments Anna Wilken

DECEMBER 6, 2014

Holiday Party: **12:00PM**

JANUARY 3, 2015

Club Meeting: **2:00PM**
Speaker: TBD
Refreshments TBD

FEBUARY 2015

NO MEETING SCHEDULED

MARCH 7, 2015

Club Meeting: **2:00PM**
Speaker: TBD
Refreshments Mike Cordero

APRIL 4, 2015

Club Meeting: **2:00PM**
Speaker: TBD
Refreshments TBD

Gem & Mineral Shows

November 1-2 2014: BREWER, MAINE: 10th Annual Rock and Gem Show; Penobscot Mineral & Lapidary Club; Brewer Auditorium; 203 State St.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; adults \$2, students (over 12) \$2, children (under 12) free with adult; 20 dealers, rocks, minerals, gemstones, beads, jewelry, silver and gold jewelry, Maine minerals and tourmaline, gold panning information and equipment, silent auctions, door prize, raffles; contact Jim White, 54 Gilbert St., Orono, ME 04473, (207) 866-2546; e-mail: jameshwhite@myfairpoint.net; Web site: www.penobscotminerallapidaryclub.com

August 29-30 2015: CONCORD, NH: 52nd Annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Festival Capital Mineral Club, Everett Arena, Concord, NH, Sat 9am to 5pm, Sun 10am to 4pm, www.capitalmineralclub.org, steffenh@capitalmineralclub.org