



# CRYSTALS AND CABS

Newsletter of the Capital Mineral Club  
Concord, New Hampshire

President - Steffen Hermanns, 7133 Oak Hill Road, Loudon, NH 03307, Phone (603) 783-4121 Email: steffenh@comcast.net  
Vice President - Mike Cordero, 79 Lund Lane, Warren, NH 03279, Phone (603) 764-9390 Email: mikeandjackie101@myfairpoint.net  
Secretary - Ellen Oberkotter, 79 Sunrise Hill Road, Cornish, NH 03745 Phone (603) 675-6079 Email: tworedbarns@hotmail.com  
Treasurer - Don Dallaire, 829 Candia Road., Chester, NH 03036, Phone (603) 483-8467 Email: dadallaire@hotmail.com

March 2016

Volume 16 Issue 6

## Capital Mineral Club News

### Inside this issue:

January Minutes	2
March Speaker	3
Mineral of the Month	4
4th Annual New England	
Mineral Conference	5
Calendar of Events	6

#### Editors Note:

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

- My e-mail address:  
pfcram@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, March 5th at 2:00 PM at The Salvation Army Building, Concord, NH.

Thank you to Pam Jackson for providing refreshments last month.

This month's speaker will be Bill Adams from Canterbury, NH whose topic will be Rattlesnakes and Rocks. Four stories of collecting in Brazil. In addition to the illustrated presentation he will have on display many specimens from 4 grams to 4 kilograms and will offer several more on the raffle table.

Mineral of the month: Quartz Minerals

This Months Refreshments will be provided by Karla Ruth & Nick Hadshi.

2016 Club dues are due, please send your membership renewals to Steffen Hermanns. Make check payable: Capital Mineral Club . Dues are \$10.00 per member.

### Welcome New Members

Lynn Hartley, Belmont, NH  
Paul Schmidt, Belmont, NH

### Mineral Clubs - Meeting Dates

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

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

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

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

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

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



The January 2016 meeting of the Capitol Mineral Club was held on Jan 9th at the Salvation Army Building in Concord NH. Meeting came to order at 2:20 pm and began with a presentation about Havey Quarry by Jeff Morrison. Many great pictures and a lot of good information - this is a site many of the club members have collected at and hope to visit again.

Business meeting was called to order at 3:40.

The secretary's report was read and accepted. The treasurer's report had some issues-there has been a lot of trouble in data transfer, and although the recovery process is working, we are still waiting on about half the data. A small ad for Carbonite could be inserted here - our treasurer wisely had everything backed up and protected. The yearly report was given and we are in good shape.

Old business - Gordon is still working on his project to supply mineral kits for schools. It's difficult to navigate the complexities of doing all of this, so he is finding established people to help with getting the word out about what we are trying to do. He hopes to have an update at the March meeting. Some discussion followed about individual teachers who are interested in materials from us. Don Dallaire said they can apply for that sort of thing without waiting for Gordon's project to be finished, and Bob Whitmore also mentioned that they were welcome to come to meetings and let us know what their needs are.

Gary Bono asked about posters for this year's show. Nobody has any ideas yet. Don mentioned that notices for magazines should go out soon, because lead time on ads is very long.

New business - Charlie sent out an email about the idea of coordinating trips, and is asking for ideas. Gary offered to open his house for those who would like to see his collection. Charlie is hoping to do more than just have official club trips, and said it would be helpful to collect general information about places that are worth seeing and collecting in. That information could be used by club members who are traveling, and would give them ideas for places to collect when away from familiar territory.

There has been some contact made with the Salvation Army captain in regards to working with some of the kids. It would be a good way to educate more young people about minerals and collecting. It was proposed that, because there was no February meeting, a sort of workshop be held in place of the meeting. Club members and friends could get together and learn from each other. Many people liked this idea and said they would come. Everyone was encouraged to bring "mystery" specimens, so perhaps the combined efforts of the group could figure out what they were.

Two new members were announced and accepted - Lynn Hartley and Paul Schmidt. Door prizes were won by Larry Welker, Scott Higgins, Steve Backurz and Jim Young.

Respectfully submitted  
Ellen Oberkotter  
Secretary

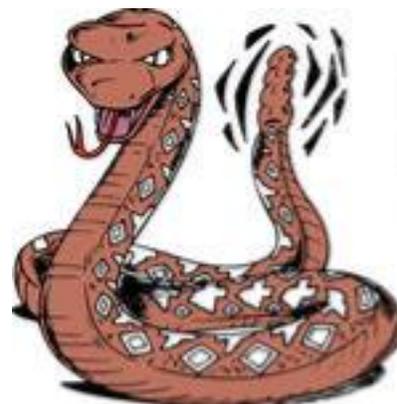
**Capital Mineral Club  
Concord, New Hampshire**

# March Program By Bill Adams

## Rattlesnakes and Rocks

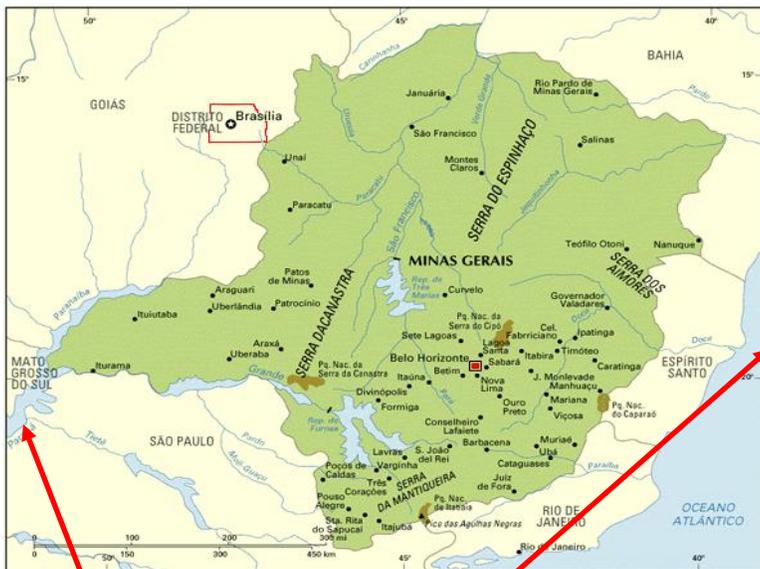
### Four Stories of Mineral Collecting in Brazil

For 13 years Bill has been climbing up to a range of 4 hills near his home in Brazil. These heavily metamorphosed rocks are 2.77 million years old and while Europeans have been prospecting in them for 341 years, no one has been much interested in the earthquake smashed, tropical rain leached landscape. Mostly iron stained, quartz crystals were found there and prompted little interest until he came along. Join him in reliving the prospecting and collecting of Canga, Prasiolite, Quartz, and Smoky Quartz in the once gold and diamond capital of the world, the state of Minas Gerais, Brazil.



These 4 hills descend from almost 5,000 feet where they connect with a 16 mile long ridge of iron ore, down to 3,200 feet where they merge into a dome of red clay, formerly a granite batholith. The name: Mountain of Fine Gold (Serra Ouro Fino), so named because of the gold dust mined there three centuries ago.

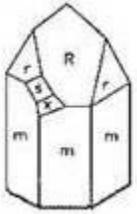
In addition to the illustrated presentation he will have on display many specimens from 4 grams to 4 kilograms, and will offer several more to the raffle table.



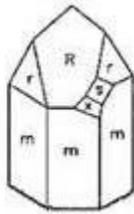
## Mineral of the month—Quartz

Quartz is the signature mineral of the earth's crust. It is a major component of igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks.

### Quartz properties

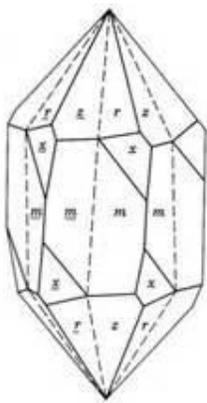


Quartz crystal drawings

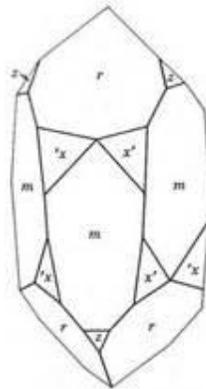


*Left-hand crystal*

*Right-hand crystal*



*Dauphine twin*



*Brazil twin*

Chemical formula:	SiO <sub>2</sub>
Crystal system (American)	hexagonal
Crystal system (European):	trigonal
Cleavage:	Poor, rarely observed
Fracture:	conchoidal
Tenacity:	brittle
Hardness (Moh's scale):	7
Luster:	vitreous
Streak:	white
Color:	Colorless, white, yellow, brown, black, purple, rose, green, red,, and orange



*Left: Quartz var: rock crystal  
Peñas Blancas Mine.  
Mun. de San Pablo de Borbur.  
Boyacá Department.  
Columbia*



*Right: Quartz var: smoky  
South Baldface Mountain  
Chatham  
New Hampshire,  
USA*

**Bring your best quartz crystals to display at the meeting**

## **4th Annual New England Mineral Conference**

The *4th Annual New England Mineral Conference* will be held from Friday, May 6 – Sunday, May 8, 2016 at the Grand Summit Resort Hotel and Conference Center at Sunday River, Newry, Maine. The conference is a division of the non-profit *New England Mineral Association* and was developed as an educational event to promote further knowledge in the fields of mineralogy and geology. Lectures on both New England and non-New England topics are scheduled on Friday evening and Saturday. In addition, there will be mineral exhibits, a voice and a silent auction in support of the conference, and a separate room for the *Micromounters of New England*. Dealers can be visited in their hotel rooms from Friday afternoon through Saturday evening (except during the presentations). The weekend culminates with a field trip on Sunday, usually to an area not open to the general public. For further information please visit: [www.nemineralconference.org](http://www.nemineralconference.org) .

Two important educational features of the conference for students in grades 3-12 are *Education Day* (May 6) and the *Poster Contest*. The poster contest gives a chance for students to do a research project about anything relating to the rocks and minerals of New England. The students will display the information on a poster, which then will be submitted electronically. The posters will be judged according to grade level, and the winning posters will be displayed at the conference from May 6-7. For additional information about *Education Day* and the *Poster Contest* please visit: [www.nemineraleducation.org](http://www.nemineraleducation.org)



Peter Cram  
 Editor  
 1 Catskill Drive  
 Merrimack, NH 03054

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

Email: pfcram@comcast.net

WE'RE ON THE WEB  
 WWW.CAPITALMINERALCLUB.ORG

**2015 Club Dues are Due, please send your membership renewals to Steffen Hermanns and make check payable to Capital Mineral Club, Dues are \$10.00 per member.**

Capital Mineral Club Meetings & Events	Gem & Mineral Shows
<p><b>March 5, 2016</b>            Club Meeting: <b>2:00PM</b>            Speaker: Bill Adams            Refreshments: Karla Ruth &amp; Nick Hadshi</p>	<p><b>March 19, 2016: Middleboro, MA.</b>            Special Club Auction, Mitchell Memorial Club,            29 Elm Street, Middleboro, MA.</p>
<p><b>April 2, 2016</b>            Club Meeting: <b>2:00PM</b>            Speaker: TBD            Refreshments: Natalie Undercofler</p>	<p><b>April 2-3, 2016 : Orange, CT.</b>            43rd Annual Mineral, Gem, Jewelry &amp; fossil Show, Mew Haven Mineral Club, Amity Regional Middle School, Shefffield Rd, Orange, CT.</p>
<p><b>May 7, 2016</b>            Club Meeting: <b>2:00PM</b>            Speaker: TBD            Refreshments: The Howds</p>	<p><b>April 16-17, 2016: Haldey, MA.</b>            Western Mass. Mineral, Jewelry &amp; Fossil Show, Connecticut Valley Mineral Club. Hadley Farms Meeting House, 41 Russell St. Hadley MA.</p>
<p><b>JUNE 4, 2016</b>            Club Meeting: <b>2:00PM</b>            Speaker: TBD            Refreshments TBD</p>	<p><b>May 6-May 8, 2016: Newry, ME</b>  <i>4th Annual New England Mineral Conference</i>, Grand Summit Resort Hotel &amp; Conference Center at Sunday River, Newry, Maine. The conference also sponsors an <i>Education Day/Poster Contest</i> for children in grades 3-12. For further details visit: <a href="http://www.nemineralconference.org">www.nemineralconference.org</a> and <a href="http://www.nemineraleducation.org">www.nemineraleducation.org</a>.</p> <p><b>June 26-27, 2016: Gilsum NH.</b>            52nd annual Gilsum Rock Swap &amp; Mineral Show will be held June 25-26, 2016 RAIN OR SHINE!            More than 65 dealers and swappers with gems, jewelry and minerals available for sale or trade.</p>