



# CRYSTALS AND CABS

Newsletter of the Capital Mineral Club  
Concord, New Hampshire

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May 2006

Volume 6 Issue 9

## Capital Mineral Club News

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#### 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: [steffenh@comcast.net](mailto:steffenh@comcast.net)

... CMC Website: [www.capitalmineralclub.org](http://www.capitalmineralclub.org)

... Website designed and maintained by:  
Robin Edgewood-Reece & 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 CMC will meet Saturday, May 13th at 7:30 PM** at the Salvation Army Building on Clinton Street in Concord, NH. There will be a Board Meeting / Show Committee Meeting at 6:00 pm preceding the regular meeting.

The Club would like to thank Steffen Hermanns and Scott Higgins for their presentation on Sterling Hill in March. Also, many thanks to the 2006 CMC Scholarship recipients on their talk about their trip out west.

Our speaker for May is Jeffery B. Johnson from the University of New Hampshire, Department of Earth Sciences. The subject of his talk will be, Constraining Volcanic Eruptions, including, listening to volcanic eruptions with microphones and seismometers. The talk will showcase the Erebus Volcano in Antarctica, the only active, convecting lava lake on Earth.

Mineral of the month will be volcanic minerals. Bring them if you have them.

Refreshments this month will be provided by John McCrory. Thanks to Terry Crowell and Annette Comeau for last month's refreshments.

More Info on the June 10th Palermo cookout will be distributed to the membership in the next couple of weeks in a separate flyer.

Also, please remember to vote for the Mineral Show location with the Ballots on page 7. These will be due and counted on June 10th at the cookout. You must be a current, paid up member for your vote to count.

### MICROMOUNTERS OF NEW ENGLAND ANNUAL REUNION MEETING

**Saturday, May 20, 2006 Location: Elk's Lodge, 91 Park St., Hudson MA Time: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.** There will be a silent auction, sales table and give-a-way table. At Noon a lunch buffet will be served. At 11:15 am our featured speaker, Joe Marty, will give a presentation on Hidden Treasures, Utah and at 1:00 pm a presentation on Gold Hill, Utah. Joe Marty was voted into Micromounters Hall of Fame last year. Pre-paid admission including lunch: \$ 20.00 for members and \$ 25.00 for nonmembers. Bring your microscope, light, extension cord and give-a-ways and have a fun day. Go to our website at [www.micromountersofnewengland.org](http://www.micromountersofnewengland.org) to download the registration form or call Anna Wilken at 603-536-2013 for more information.



These are the minutes of the April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006 meeting of the Capital Mineral Club. The meeting was held in the all purpose room of the Salvation Army Building on Clinton Street in Concord, NH. The meeting was called to order by president, Scott Higgins, at 7:30 PM. There were 18 members present and four guests, Dillon Bush, Brad Jackson, Danny Page and Ken Robinson.

The secretary's report was accepted as printed in the newsletter. The treasurer's report was tabled due to his trip to the Rochester Symposium this weekend.

**Old Business:** Jim Tovey covered the current status of the scholarship committee. Terry Crowell was presented his club shirt for his "Best of New England" win at the Christmas party. A motion was made for the club to look into obtaining a charcoal grill for future club activities, to be further reviewed at the May meeting. Possible, future trips to Ruggles Mine and the Sterling Mine in New Jersey was brought up by Scott. Volunteers for the Nominating Committee candidates were requested with Annette Crowell and Edna Whitmore filling the positions. The possibility of the new Sunapee Show location was discussed and a suggestion of using the next newsletter to contain different editorials for club members on this hot topic was included.

**New Business:** Scott mentioned that Paul Daley of Yarmouth, Maine had his mineral collection for sale. A card was passed around for Pat Barker's husband, Bob, who passed away recently. Both, Bob and Pat were made honorary club members in December of 2005. Alvin Jones from Eden Mills had a stroke this past winter and the availability of Eden Mills is a little more uncertain. Martin Kippley brought us up to date with the club decision to attempt late June and August trips to the Vermont mine. Bill Burroughs made a motion that this year's scholarship grant be given to Keene State College and the club passed the motion. Peter Nielson from the Keene State College Geology Department thanked the club.

Terry and Annette Crowell supplied this month's refreshments.

The door prize winners were too numerous to list due to the donations from Terry and Annette Crowell of several flats of specimens.

A slide talk presentation from the four guests, all Keene State College students, on their trip out west, was part of our program tonight. Many famous western national parks were shown including Arches National Park and the Hoover Dam.

The program ended with video viewing of the past club trip to the Sterling, New Jersey mines.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vincent Valade  
Secretary

**Capital Mineral Club  
Concord, New Hampshire**

Dear Friends of the Maine Pegmatite Workshop,

Normally I send better news than this, but a friend just emailed me with this very sad news!

I quote,

"At the Rochester Mineralogical Symposium last weekend, those attending were going to honor Frederick H. Pough, who was about to reach his 100th birthday. However, he collapsed upon entering the lobby at the symposium, hit his head on the floor, and died a few hours later. It was the passing of a giant in our field, and very unreal that it happened when and where it did!"

Our sympathies and condolences go out to his family ... a man to be missed!

Ray Sprague, Maine Pegmatite Workshop - Director

## 2006 Capital Mineral Club Scholarship

The 2006 Capital Mineral Club Scholarship of \$1500.00, was awarded to the Keene State College Geology department. The scholarship money will be used to help pay for the expenses of the 20 participating students for their May 2006 student study field trip.

Because of this years time constraints, the board and attending club membership reviewed and voted to grant the scholarship to Keene State College, all at one meeting. A date was set for the upcoming November 2006 meeting for Keene State scholarship recipients to give us a report on their 2006 study field trip.

It was the first time we used our new scholarship candidate acceptance procedure, which is still being refined. For 2007, the candidate interviews will hopefully be done at the January meeting and the club membership review at the February meeting. The scholarship information is now on the Club website, so club members can get the word out about the scholarship.

This year the club had a group candidate interview. For the interview, four Keene State College students, representing the Keene State College Geology Club, gave a presentation. Their presentation consisted of a brief introduction to the Keene State geology degree program and their school geology club, plus a great slide show of their 2005 geology study field trip of the south-west (Arizona, Nevada).

I have enjoyed the task of being a member and secretary for the club's scholarship committee. The committee members and I are glad that we were able to meet our major 2006 scholarship goals. We also received requests for club membership from two of the KSC students.

I want to give a big thank you to Steffen Hermanns. He spent a lot of time setting up the club web site to handle the on-line use and download of the scholarship documents and a dedicated email mailbox for the scholarship committee. Also, a thank you to Anna Wilkin for hosting the committee meetings at her home and serving great treats (we will be back).

Bob Whitmore - Chair  
James S. Tovey – Secretary  
Bob Wilken  
Eric Cadieux

**Mineral Clubs - Meeting Dates**

*Saco Valley Gem and Mineral Club* : 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at the Albany, NH Town Hall – 7:00 PM

*Keene*: 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month at Keene State College, Bldg. 18, Keene, NH – 7:00 PM

*Nashua*: Last Wednesday of each month at the Nashua public Library, Court St., Nashua, NH in the downstairs Theater Room – 7:00 PM

*North Shore (MA)*: 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month, St. Paul Episcopal Church, Washington St., Peabody, MA – 7:30 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

*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

**Moving the show to the Everett Arena, Concord, NH**

I want to expand on what was contained on page 3 of the March Crystals and Cabs. I have gathered the 2000 census populations of the surrounding communities of both Sunapee (Newbury) and Concord as follows.

Item	Sunapee	Concord
Populations of community	1701	40,681
Community & surrounding towns	11,921	76,019
Within a 30 minute drive	176,727	544,483

The approximate square footage available at Sunapee is 9,500 square feet, which includes, wholesale at the North Lodge and upstairs, downstairs & lobby at the main show lodge. The Everett Arena is 18,000 square feet on one floor with a vehicular loading and unloading door. The larger area of the Everett allows for more tables per dealer, no upstairs table discount, more space between the isles and dealers and additional dealer space. Dealer setup and break down would hopefully go much faster.

Since the Show would be in a community with daily newspaper, radio stations and TV stations, we should have easier access to media coverage.

The Everett Arena with more than 6 times the traffic can be easily accessed, being approximately 2 minutes east off exit 14, Interstate-93. Additionally, with the cost of gas, access to a larger population base is going to become more meaningful.

It has been mentioned that some dealers would not be able to make the new date the last week in September. This is true, and conversely there are dealers that can not make the Columbus day weekend. The Sunapee show has been held at four different dates, the second and last weekend in August, three times during the last weekend in September, which is when the Everett Arena is available and Columbus day weekend for the last 5 or 6 years. No matter what time you change there will be dealer conflicts and the further into the summer the more complicated the conflicts become. However, I am confident there are new dealers out there that will fill the gap and with the increased square footage we will be able to add more than the 21 to 23 dealers that we have been held to at Sunapee.

I personally feel, with a couple more dealers, the show would make a greater profit than Sunapee within the first year because of the greater population base, double the square footage available and increased traffic flow.

The increased costs are approximately \$500 increased rent, increased set-up costs (more tables and curtains) \$600 and start up costs (electrical) \$400, plus unknowns, \$1000. \$2500 additional cost I believe is high, but equals 625 additional costumers or 5 to 7 more dealers or combinations of the two to equal the profit we have had in the last couple of years.

Sunapee has ranged from 800 to 1200 people in the last ten years, the previous ten years we ranged from 1200 to 2000 people. The additional 625 people at Concord would mean 1625 costumers, which I feel is a doable goal in the first year.

Once we have gone through a couple of years at Concord, the ease of operation should be equal or easier than Sunapee and the potential reward and possibilities to the Club at Concord are much greater. I could ramble on but this is basically why I feel we should move the show to our home and be called the "Capital Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Festival". It is a thought that has been kicked around off an on since the first show but the space or date has not been available until now. It is critical, that to make the above work and secure the date, we act soon.

Gordon Jackson

**Sunapee Vs Everett Arena**

Some several years ago, there occurred a misunderstanding with the Sunapee management regarding the future of the CMC Festival at that location. CMC leaders decided that the Club should be looking for another location to hold the annual Festival. We now have such an opportunity before us after some 5 years of looking. The question put to Sunapee as to the time lapse after notice of eviction produced a 2-year period. The Club has a strong vested interest in continuing a successful annual event that has unquestionably sustained the Club for more than 40 years. Without the Festival, the Club would be

*(Continued on page 5)*

*(Continued from page 4)*

unable to hold and engage the membership in the many activities we now enjoy. Sunapee, and the Festival, has been a winning opportunity for the Club these many years and ought not to be set aside without firm expectation of something equally beneficial.

I have one show as chairman behind me and can tell the Club membership my experience to date. The fancy brochure we produced last year was done at the expense of Sunapee. Our cost would have been some \$1,200 for the layout effort. While the same arrangement no longer exists, we did acquire valuable experience and exposure in the process. Sunapee also did the layout work for our roadside banner, and various other roadside guides at their expense. Sunapee has addressed questions of food service, space utilization, and cooperative opportunities in a business like and friendly manner. Sunapee has offered good advice and publication services when asked. Sunapee is a managed site with a full staff and services available to make the job of show chairman much easier. Sunapee is a quiet, friendly, and secure location with, weather permitting, other activities to entice visitors. Those who come to our Festival of Gems and Maharaja jewels, do so because they really want to and likely spend accordingly.

Would we do better at the Everett Arena in Concord during a late September weekend? No doubt, we would have many more visitors, and no doubt, we will have a higher cash flow. Can we get the dealers to join us? Probably, but their comfort and convenience are unknown to us. Overnight and daytime security, tables, food service, and electrical service all need to be fully understood. While we don't get a lot of strangers to show up at Sunapee, it is the regulars that truly sustain the Club.

Charles Forsberg 4-23-06

#### A SUNAPEE SHOW MOVE!

In the past few months I have been in the center of hearing all the pros and cons of moving the Capital Mineral Club's annual show to the Everett Arena in Concord. Both sides like the republicans and the democrats in Washington have their valid points and believe me our club members feel just as strongly in their opinions.

To me there are several bottom lines which make this a complicated decision. The Everett Arena is the only choice capable of replacing Sunapee, size and budget wise. Second both places are old and both probably have definite shelf life – so I don't view the move to Everett as a permanent move. The past three Show Committee Chairmen practically live in the Sunapee area.

Several years ago we were concerned that Sunapee would throw us out, and we started looking for a replacement site. The Everett is not the PERFECT replacement – it was the only one that came close! This move will in my opinion, looking at the past date moves at Sunapee cause us to at best break even the first two to three years profit-wise. Will definitely cause a loss of 20 - 30% of our dealers as the last change did. Yes there are dealers on our waiting list (about 8 – 10), but I would not wish any one of them over the current high quality dealers we now have.

An inner city show does have the potential to grow larger. But another similar local inner city show HAD many of the same features of Everett – easy highway access, major population ( twice Concord), close to club address and help. Any of you been to the Nashua Mineral Society's "Shower of Gems" show lately?

The Sunapee Show is a good show at a good location. It's making the best profit the past several years in over 20 years! There is a lot of history and character at Sunapee – and I'm not ready or convinced of the need to move.

Vince Valade – Current Dealer Chairman and past Show Chairman

#### Moving the Capital Club show venue & date.

I would like to present some areas of discussion I believe should be considered before changing our club show location and date.

1. By changing the location we as a club are forfeiting the long tradition of having the show at a unique area. This area is also what separates our club show from the standard competing club shows.
2. The proposed show date will probably conflict with the Franklin, New Jersey show. Because that show has a larger draw we might lose some quality dealers.
3. The location change will require an infrastructure and logistical re-tooling effort. Being so we will need more dedicated manpower to organize and facilitate this new project.
4. Risk / reward: Is the risk of these changes -location/date worth the potential reward of these changes?
5. Leaving a landlord that we presently have a working relationship with for a new one we do not have a working relationship with, Is it going to be any better or worse?

So please consider these talking points. If the club does decide to change the show location and date there should be at least 2 members that will commit their time to this major effort.

Thanks  
James S. Tovey

To the membership,

At the May meeting we need to evaluate the potential change to the location of the annual mineral show. This issue has been the source of much recent club discussion. Up to this point, a considerable amount of effort has been expended in obtaining the information that we have and I want to thank everyone who has worked so hard. Enclosed in this newsletter are several letters providing a considerable amount of additional information.

This topic has been discussed during several meetings. As part of this discussion, I have heard from many members and have listened to both the positive and negative potential impact that a move might have on the club. The level of involvement in the discussions has been excellent. While listening to the membership, I realized that whether members are for or against the idea, every member has, in my opinion, two common underlying concerns. These concerns may be summarized as follows. Some feel that it is difficult to reach a good decision based on the information currently available. Secondly, some are concerned that since they are not able to attend the May meeting, their voices will not be heard. I think that the letters enclosed go a long way towards resolving the first concern.

Recognizing these concerns, I started to look at what decisions really need to be made and how to best make them. Remember, we are looking at the 2007 show. The 2006 show dates have been set and the show committee has made significant progress. The 6 p.m. board meeting before the May meeting will be dedicated to a status report on the 2006 show.

Since the proposal is for the 2007 show, the pressing need is to decide if the club wants to vote to move the show, or as an alternative, put a deposit down to hold the date for 2007 until a final deadline of October of 2006. The deposit amount to hold the date until October is \$500 and is nonrefundable. If the club decides to put the deposit down, we would then have the summer to get additional information but risk losing the deposit if we decide in September not to move the show. I have had several people express an interest in being on a 2007 exploratory show committee. If the decision is made to only put a deposit down, this group and anyone else who is interested would be asked to get additional information to make a future decision on the 2007 show. If we decide to vote to move the show, then this group would have the summer of 2006 to get a head start on planning for 2007. Deciding whether or not to put down a deposit is the only 2007 show decision that **needs** to be made before the July 1, 2006 deadline. I think that with the information included in this newsletter, we can reach a final decision on this matter before then but have included this as an option on the ballot.

This brings up the second concern that members have expressed to me. This concern is that, due to schedule conflicts, they will not be able to attend the May meeting and they really want a chance to vote on this decision. A decision this important to the club really needs to be made by as many club members as possible. For this reason, the board has decided conduct this vote by written ballot and has included an absentee ballot in this newsletter. This written ballot will allow all voices to be heard and will ensure that we receive as many votes as possible. The enclosed ballot has the issues to be decided and requires both the printed name and signature of the club member who is voting. To ensure that members have time to vote, a final cut off date of June 10, 2006, at the Palermo cookout, will be used as the last date and time that votes can be received. Each club member wishing to vote must complete a ballot. At the cookout, the votes will be tallied and a decision reached. Members attending either the May meeting or June cookout can vote using the same ballot as provided in the newsletter. We will provide time during the May meeting to continue the discussion if members wish, but all voting will be by written ballot.

This will also address the potential concern that a quorum may not be achieved at the May meeting. In this event, the annual meeting and vote for club officers will also be deferred until the June cookout.

I hope that this plan meets with the club's approval and addresses those concerns that have been raised during recent discussions. I hope to see some of you at the May meeting and hopefully many more at the Palermo cookout in June. Sharpen those tools and lets get collecting.

Scott Higgins, President

CAPITAL MINERAL CLUB  
MINERAL SHOW LOCATION BALLOT

A chance has been presented to the club to consider a change to the location of the 2007 mineral show. Please indicate your preference by putting a mark or your initials next to the proposal you endorse and print and sign your name to the ballot. Ballots may be mailed to the Secretary at; Vince Valade 35 Plimpton Rd., Goffstown, NH 03045 or brought to the May meeting or June cookout. Votes must be received by the date of the cookout to be considered. At the cookout, the votes will be counted and the option receiving the largest number of votes will be the club's decision.

\_\_\_\_\_ **I would like to have the location of the 2007 mineral show to be moved to the Everett Arena, Concord, NH.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **I would like to have the location of the 2007 mineral show to remain at Sunapee State Park, Sunapee, NH**

\_\_\_\_\_ **I would like to place a non refundable deposit of \$500 on the Everett Arena and conduct a final vote on a location change in September.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
date

I am interested in being on the 2007 show committee\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
date

I am interested in being on the 2007 show committee\_\_\_\_\_



Steffen Hermanns

Editor

7133 Oak Hill Road  
Loudon, NH 03307

Keep on Rockin' in the Free World

Email: [steffenh@comcast.net](mailto:steffenh@comcast.net)

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WE'RE ON THE WEB  
[WWW.CAPITALMINERALCLUB.ORG](http://WWW.CAPITALMINERALCLUB.ORG)

Ballot Enclosed See Page 6 and 7

#### CAPITAL MINERAL CLUB MEETINGS & EVENTS

##### MAY 13, 2006 @ 7:30PM

Board Meeting / Show Committee Meeting @6:00  
Club Meeting @7:30  
Speaker will be of UNH speaking on Volcanoes  
Refreshments: John McCrory

##### JUNE 10, 2006 @ 9:30PM

No Meetings this month  
Mineral Show Vote Due  
Palermo Cookout and Family Day  
Details on the cookout will be sent out in a June Mailing.

##### SEPTEMBER 9, 2006 @ 7:30PM

Board Meeting @6:00  
Club Meeting @7:30

##### OCTOBER 7 - 8 2006 ??

Capital Mineral Club's Annual Gem and Mineral Festival

#### Gem & Mineral Shows

**May 6-7, North Shore Rock & Mineral Club. 43rd Annual New England Gem and Mineral Show.** Topsfield Fairgrounds, Rte. 1 North, Topsfield, MA. 6th, 9-5; 7th, 9-4. Donna Lee Hanlon [donna@nahant.com](mailto:donna@nahant.com)

**May 12-14, 17th Maine Mineral Symposium.** The Senator Inn (Best Western), Western Ave., Augusta ME, Woodrow Thompson, 207-287-7178, [woodrow.b.thompson@maine.gov](mailto:woodrow.b.thompson@maine.gov)

**May 13-14, Connecticut Valley Mineral Club. Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show.** Three County Fairgrounds, Northampton, MA. 13th, 10-6; 14th, 10-5. Lee Champigny, 413-583-3565, [pullg4fun@verizon.net](mailto:pullg4fun@verizon.net)

**June 24-25 Gilsum Rock Swap and Mineral Show.** Gilsum Elementary School, Route 10, Gilsum, NH, Sat. 8:00 - 6:00, Sun. 8 - 4, Robert Mitchell, 603-357-9636 [rmitchell60@adelphia.net](mailto:rmitchell60@adelphia.net)

**August 11-13 East Coast Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show.** Eastern States Exposition/Better Living Center, 1305 Memorial Drive, West Springfield, MA, Fri. 10:00 - 7:00, Sat. 10:00 - 7:00, Sun. 10:00 - 5:00, Martin Zinn show manager, [mz0955@aol.com](mailto:mz0955@aol.com)