



THE TELEPHONE CITY CRYSTAL

THE BRANTFORD LAPIDARY &
MINERAL SOCIETY INC.



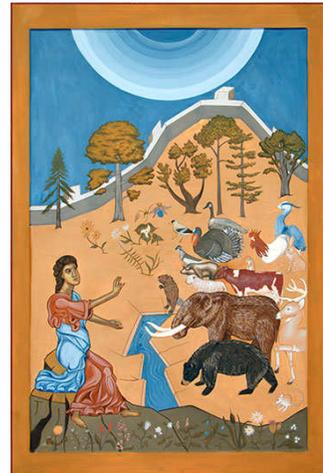
Our new website: www.brantfordlapidarymineral.ca

Our mailing address: 1 Sherwood Drive, Brantford, On N3T 1N3



Volume 2, Issue 1

April 2009 Edition



'Adam Naming the Animals'
by Chris van Donkelaar

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APRIL MEETING - April 17, 2009



Time: 7:30 pm

Location: Woodman Drive Community Centre

491 Grey St., Brantford, On

The program for our April meeting will be Ken Dardano from Elora, Ont. Ken has been one of our dealers at our show for a number of years and carries a fine selection of minerals and fossils. Ken's topic will be an overview of his life as a dealer, his trips to India and stories in general about his travels. Ken will also be bringing a selection of minerals and fossils to tell us about. You will find out that Ken is a truly 'Gneiss Guy'.



Definition of a Lapidary- Someone who grinds his (or her) fingernails, sands his knuckles and polishes his vocabulary while trying to do the same thing to a piece of rock!

On that note we would announce that we now have an afternoon workshop at Woodman on Thursdays (1 -3pm) under the guidance of Zenon Dabrowski to encourage more usage of our incredible facility. Our Wednesday evenings (7- 9pm) will continue as usual but we need more people to attend the workshops.

Arkona Field Trip—April 26, 2009

We are planning our annual trip to Arkona on Apr. 26. For new members who are not familiar with the area I have included a brief review on page 3. Collecting here is relatively easy. A screwdriver or garden claw and a container are the only tools necessary and of course a pair of rubber boots. Bring a lunch as we will be eating at Rock Glen. We will be meeting at the Woodman Centre at 8 AM and car pool from there, returning back about 6PM. We are also exploring the possibility of visiting the Stones & Bones in Sarnia later that day but need your feedback if enough members want to go. Admission is \$6. More details at this month's meeting.



Hungry Hollow Fossils



Tentaculites



Microcyclus



Brachiopods



Turbinatus Coral



Rugosa Coral



Zaphrentis Coral

Hungry Hollow Fossils—Geological History

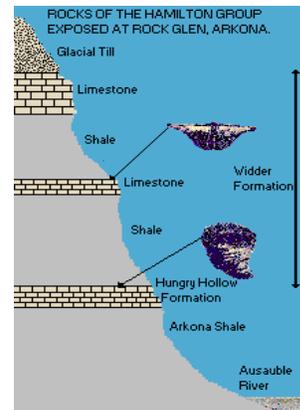
THE TELEPHONE CITY CRYSTAL

The Paleozoic sedimentary rocks of southern Ontario were deposited in a warm, shallow, salt sea on a weathered surface of Precambrian basement rocks. Deposition of these rocks was controlled by the presence of areas of high relief (mountains) in the basement rocks. This Precambrian surface dips into the basins at between 6 and 9 meters per kilometer. Geologists have named the basement mountains, arches. Three of these features influenced the deposition of later sediments and are identified as the *Frontenac, Findlay and Algonquin arches*

The arches divide the area into three sedimentary basins which have thick sequences of sediments in the centre and thin gradually towards the edges. The basin towards the west is referred to as the Michigan Basin, the one to the south the Southwestern Ontario and to the east, the Eastern Ontario, Sedimentary Basin.

Sediments in the Southwestern Ontario Basin were deposited in Cambrian to late Devonian times. The rocks range from 0 metres at the edge of the basin to over 1460 metres thick under lake Erie, near Sarnia. Sediments formed in the Eastern Ontario Sedimentary Basin are similar to those of the Southwestern basin, except that some sediments were contributed from the east. The sediments formed by weathering of the Precambrian surface (sandstones and shales) and from the calcareous skeletons of marine creatures. Occasionally the basin areas were sealed off from access to the open ocean. At these times the salt water evaporated and formed beds of salt and gypsum. When these sediments were being formed this part of the world was situated near the equator creating tropical conditions ideal for the growth of life in abundance. Corals, shells, trilobites, fish and sea lilies are some of the inhabitants of this area. Other sediments were

deposited on top of the ones we see today. The original thickness of this younger material is estimated to have been between 800 and 1300 metres thick. In order to map the rocks and understand their occurrence they are organized into Formations and Groups. The rocks at Kettle Point are Upper Devonian, Kettle Point Formation black shales. The rocks in the Thedford and Arkona areas belong to the Middle Hamilton Group. They consist of grey shale, limestone and sandstones.



From the University of Waterloo

Chemical formula	April Mineral –Kyanite		Al_2SiO_5 (aluminium silicate)
Identification			
Color		Blue; also green, white, grey, black	
Crystal habit		Columnar; fibrous	
Crystal system		Triclinic	
Cleavage		[100] Perfect, [010] Imperfect	
Fracture		Brittle	
Mohs Scale hardness		4.5-5 parallel to one axis 6.5-7 perpendicular to that axis	
Luster		Vitreous; Pearly	
Refractive index		1.71 - 1.75	
Pleochroism		Trichroic, colorless to pale blue to blue	
Streak		White	
Specific gravity		3.56 - 3.67	
Solubility		None	
Diaphaneity	Transparent to translucent		



The Brantford Lapidary & Mineral Club under the chair of Jenny Jones hosted another successful show at the Paris Fairgrounds on Apr.4&5 2009. The Saturday attendance in my opinion was one of the best crowds in a number of years. The dealers seemed to be quite happy with sales and our silent auction again was very well received. We acquired ten new memberships for our club and passed out many club brochures for meetings, fieldtrip and workshop interest. The winner for the best dealer as chosen by our executive was Herkimer Diamonds owned by Bill and Anne McIlquham (front page). Many thanks to all club members who helped host another great show. Special thanks to the members who pitched in to help on Fri. with finalizing dealer set-up, putting up signs, making coffee and on Sunday with the removal of the show in general. Thanks to our demonstrators; Tim Elliott, Vince Bomberry, Jeffrey Shallit and Paul Densem. I would personally thank Karen Ward, the LeBlanc family, Bill and Connie Boone, Gary and Ruth Bechtel, Chris Blakely, Phyllis, John, Kathy, Russ, Brad, Paula, Vita, Carl, Peter, and all the members that I have failed to mention. The biggest gratitude goes to Jenny Jones for all her patience and leadership for again stepping forward to make the 2009 show a success. Last but not least kudos to all the dealers who are the biggest part of our show. **SEE YOU NEXT YEAR ON APRIL 10 & 11,**

Workshop Tips

THE TELEPHONE CITY CRYSTAL

1. When using soap and water to clean specimens, use Dish soap— it does not contain bleach. Use distilled water for the final rinse to preclude any residue from the water coating the specimen.

2. Mineral oil is an excellent cleaner for selenite crystals. It seems to loosen the tiny particles left after washing in water and it brightens them also. It has several other uses: it is fine for preserving borax crystals from hydration changes; it makes variscite a deeper green; and improves the appearance of fluorite and calcite.

3. Fluorite— To clean fluorite, do not wash in hot or even warm water. The luster will vanish and be gone forever. It can be placed into muriatic acid to remove calcite, then washed in cold water.

4. Dop Sticks - When making up dop sticks, lacquer the various sizes and lengths of wood. This prevents the water swelling the wood which is apt to crack the dop wax and loosing the

A SAFETY NOTE The latest field emergency kit contains flares, mirrors, a radio and a deck of cards. If no one answers the radio, the flares produce no action, and the mirror is ignored by overhead airplanes, use the cards. Start a game of Solitaire and within 10 minutes someone will be looking over your shoulder and saying, "Play the black jack on the red queen!" via Gates Rockhound Bulletin Feb. 98 & Cabber Gabber Nov. 97

The trouble with doing nothing is you can't stop and rest.

If most people said what was on their mind they would be speechless.



Turritella Shells

by Ed Wengerd

Twenty to thirty million years ago, small turritella shells were laid down on an ancient sea floor at the foot of the Wind River Range in what is now Wyoming.

These tiny spiral shells then solidified to form a compact mass pressed into very thin slabs. When sliced, the black jasper-like matrix highlights the unique beauty of these agatized fossils. If you want to hunt for Turritella agates, you'll have to hike the country roads and trails around Superior and Wamsutter, Wyoming, as the gems are found nowhere else in the world.

from Gem Cutters News, Nov. 05 via Breccia 11/08

TURN THE CORNER AND YOU NEVER KNOW WHO YOU'LL MEET



The Colliers (Stu & Terri-Lynn) and the Parry's (Bob & Betty) had a chance meeting 2222 miles from home in Tucson, Ariz. and enjoyed an evening of dinner and conversation.



A warm welcome to our new members who joined our club at this years show. We hope that you will attend our monthly meetings and workshops and meet our friendly members.

A recent survey show's the earth's surface to be 3/4 water and 1/4 land. Thus it is clear that the Lord intended man to spend three times as many days fishing as mowing his lawn.

BRANTFORD LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY

Mailing address: 1 Sherwood Drive, Brantford, Ont. N3T 1N3

Website: www.brantfordlapidarymineral.ca

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Are You A New Rockhound?

What to do? -- Have you decided yet? If you're a new rock hound you may be confused by the many phases of our hobby. Do you wonder just, which Earth Science suits you best? Perhaps a little vocational guidance will help you make up your mind...

THE HOARDER:

Are you a hoarder at heart? Are your closet, attic and basement bulging at the seams with things you just can't bear to part with? If the answer is yes, I suggest you become a MINERAL COLLECTOR. (WARNING—be sure you have at least one empty room before you start, because you won't be able to part with any of your collection and it will grow at an alarming speed.) if you are an apartment dweller, try collecting miniatures, and if your hacienda has only one room to hang your hat, micro mounts are the thing for you. If you have a pack-rat personality, you can enjoy collecting beautiful minerals and crystals no matter how limited your space.

THE PERFECTIONIST:

Are you a perfectionist? Do you admire the perfect shape and beautiful color? If so, you're a born LAPIDARY. No lop-sided cabochons for you! They will all come out with perfect contours and you can be sure your cab, will have a mirror-like polish every time.

LIKE NUMBERS?

Are you good at mathematics? Do you have the touch of a gentle breeze? May I suggest you try FACETING? This is one hobby where, a mind with a mathematical flair can whiz through a set of angles that would baffle a lesser genius. The results are probably more spectacular than of any other 'facets' of our hobby.

HOW ABOUT VARIETY?

Do you find it hard to stick to one thing for very long? May I suggest NOVELTIES? You can try polishing flats and then use them for pen bases. Try cab, and if you tire of them, make a picture out of them. Try a sphere and if you never get beyond the pre-form

stage, make it into a paperweight.

Do you think leftovers taste better than the original dish? Thee I suggest TUMBLING for you. Just pick up all the leftover rocks around the house and put them into the tumbler. You'll be surprised what comes out!

OR, are you like a child on Christmas morning? For you, I suggest FLUORESCENTS. Each time you look over your collection, you will recapture the beauty of a lighted Christmas tree.

Do you keep a diary? Are you fascinated by history and the records of past life on this planet? You are the one to collect FOSSILS. You will find a wonderful pastime and sermons in bones, collecting the remains of these past earthlings.

Seriously, there are so many avenues to explore in the earth sciences. In addition, there's CARVING, JEWELRY MAKING and WEEKEND FIELD TRIPS, all worth a try! You would be wise to investigate them all until you find one (or several) that suits you best. from ESCOMO, 11/87& others

COMING EVENTS

- April 17-19** 24th Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show of the Club de Mineralogie de Montreal
Fri. 3-10, Sat. 10-7, Sun 10-5
Center Pierre-Charbonneau 3000 Viau St. (Viau Metro), Montreal, Quebec
Admission: \$8, Children 6-12, \$4
Contact: 514-353-0101 Website: www.salonminerauxmtl.com/
- April 23-26** 35th Rochester Mineralogical Symposium
Website: www.rasny.org/MinSymposium/MineralSymp.htm
- April 24-26** Toronto Gem and Mineral Show and Sale presented by 31416798 Canada Inc.
Fri. 4pm-9pm, Sat. 10am-7pm, Sun. 10am-5pm
Don Mills Civitan Arena, 1030 Don Mills Rd. North York, ON
Admission: Adults \$8, Seniors \$7, 12-18 \$6, under 12 free with adult
Contact: Ohannes Bedrossian (514) 989-9800 Website: www.torontogemshow.com
- May 1-3** Canadian Micro Mineral Association 46th Annual Symposium
Brock University, St. Catharines, Ont.
Speakers to be announced.
Contact: Bill Lechner at 416-438-8908 or bill.lechner@rogers.com
- May 1-3** Open House – Robert Hall Originals Pewter Studio and Rock Shop
Fri., Sat. & Sun. 10am-5pm
138 Sugar Maple Road, St. George, Ont.
Features: Visit Robert Hall Originals for our Annual Spring Open House. Take a pewter studio tour, enjoy refreshments & view the open house specials! Crafters – enjoy jewellery demonstrations & our supply of new beads. Rockhounds – examine our new specimen acquisitions!
Admission: Free
Contact: robert@roberthalloriginals.com (519) 448-1236 or 1-800-360-2813
Website: <http://www.roberthalloriginals.com/>
- June 20 -** Niagara Peninsulas: *Geo-Venture* - Gem and Mineral – Show and Sale
Sat. 10am-5pm; Admission by Donation
Rocks & Gems & Minerals & Fossils & Lapidary & Jewellery & Demonstrations (Rock Cutting & Faceting) Kid's Exhibits; Free Parking, Door Prizes
At the Strawberry Festival Beamsville Ont. Fairgrounds (under the Grandstand)
Info: 905-994-0477 or 905-935-6791; www.cfms.ca/clubs/npgs
- July 11-12** Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse present the 43rd Annual Gemworld 2009
Sat. 10am-6pm; Sun. 10am-4pm
Verizon Center of Progress Building, New York State Fairgrounds, I-690, Syracuse, NY.
Features: 50 Dealers. Admission: \$6 adults, children under 12 free.
Contact: Carlotta Brown, 315-458-4636 Website: <http://www.gmss.us>
- June 20 -** Niagara Peninsulas: *Geo-Venture* - Gem and Mineral – Show and Sale
Sat. 10am-5pm; Admission by Donation
Rocks & Gems & Minerals & Fossils & Lapidary & Jewellery & Demonstrations (Rock Cutting & Faceting) Kid's Exhibits; Free Parking, Door Prizes
At the Strawberry Festival Beamsville Ont. Fairgrounds (under the Grandstand)
Info: 905-994-0477 or 905-935-6791; www.cfms.ca/clubs/npgs

July 17-19 27th Annual Sudbury Gem and Mineral Show

Fri. 5pm – 9pm; Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-5

Handmade Jewellery, Beads, Fossils, Minerals, Rock Craft, Dealers, Door Prizes, Demonstrations, Displays, ID Booth, Metal Detecting, Kids Activities Trading Sat. 11-4; Field Trip, Sun. noon; Charity Barbecue – Sat. & Sun. Carmichael Arena, Bancroft Drive, Sudbury Ont.

Info: call 705-522-5140 or www.ccfms.ca/Clubs/Sudbury/show.htm



CCFMS, the umbrella organization, runs a couple of field trips each year that are open to all CCFMS Club Members in good standing. The dates on these trips can be seen on the [CCFMS Calendar of Events](#)

[Beamsville Quarry](#) a.k.a. Nelson Aggregates Quarry, Beamsville Ontario - Saturday - 2nd weekend in May, 4th weekend in September

[Bowmanville Quarry](#) a.k.a. St. Marys Cement Inc. (Canada), Bowmanville - October each year

[Dundas Quarry](#) a.k.a. Lafarge Quarry, Dundas Ontario Sunday -2nd weekend in May, 4th weekend in September

We have had a request for a weekend trip (eg. Thunder Bay). If enough are interested the executive will consider the possibility. Please speak to John or one of the board members about your proposal. Also watch the CCFMS web site for weekend or longer fieldtrips



Carl Banfill checks out the mineral of the month 'Malachite' won by Judy Stumpf

March Meeting 2009 - Happy 45th



Ruth L and Ruth L

Our program chair Phyllis treated the club to another most interesting speaker, Chris van Donkelaar, who presented his 100 Mile Art Project. Chris took us through his journey from start to finish. His starting point included a log of poplar wood from Winterborne to make the frame, gypsum from Paris to prepare the board for paint, and towns within the 100 Mile such as Arthur, Limehouse, Marl Lake and Kintail (turned sand to magnetite, magnetite to iron, and iron to green vitriol for the yellow pigment in his portrait (see front page) to make the paint from minerals.

The club members also enjoyed celebrating our 45th anniversary with some delicious cake provided by Susan Wakeley our social chair. Thanks to all whom attended this super evening!

Monthly Mineral Winners: Judy Stumpf and Ruth Longden



Peter Neilson investigates raw materials with Chris van Donkelaar