



THE TELEPHONE CITY CRYSTAL



Volume 3, Issue 1

MAY 2009

THE BRANTFORD LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY INC.



Guest speaker Ken Dardano and Past-Pres. Bill Boone barter to trade a large quartz specimen for a turquoise belt buckle. Word has it that Ken is still holding out to get the matching bolo tie..

Our new website: www.brantfordlapidarymineral.ca

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



Inside this issue:

May Meeting	2
Field trips	2&3
Ammonites & Field Trip Equip.	4
Wall Arc & Thundereggs	5
2009 Executive	6
Future Shows and Events	7
April Meeting & Monthly Mineral	8



Happy Members of the BLMS
Left: John & Babs
Right: Jenny & Paula
Above: right Russ & Carl

Mother's Day

MAY MEETING - May 8, 2009

THE TELEPHONE CITY CRYSTAL

Our program chair has assured me that she will have a great program for the May meeting. At the publishing date the actual presentation had not yet been confirmed. Make sure you come out to the meeting and enjoy the social aspect of chatting with our new members and of course to enjoy Susan's delicious snacks.

Time: 7:30 pm

Location: Woodman Drive Community Centre
491 Grey St., Brantford

Our June meeting will be a pot luck dinner at Robert Hall Originals in St. George. We will begin the dinner at 6:30 PM but Bob and Betty have welcomed us to their shop to browse their many mineral specimens, pewter or jewellery before the meeting.

FIELD TRIP—SATURDAY MAY 9/09

Hi Everyone,

Just a reminder to let you know of the upcoming Field Trip to Beamsville > (Nelson Aggregates) on Saturday May 9th has been confirmed .

Safety Vest (fluorescent), Safety Boots, Hard Hat and Glasses are required for admittance to the Quarry.

Plan to arrive at the gate of the quarry of Beamsville at about 8:30 am for sign in and vehicle tag in. We will enter the quarry about 9:00 am after our safety talk.

NO LATE ARRIVALS

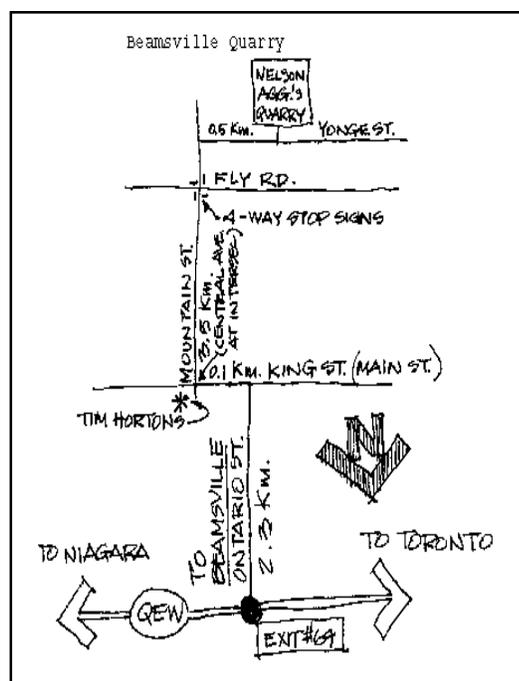
Happy hunting.

Maps to this quarry can be found at:

<http://www.cfms.ca/Events/Beamsville.html>

Jim Glen

CCFMS Field Trip Coordinator Niagara Region



Minerals of the Nelson Aggregate Quarry, Beamsville Ontario

- Carbonates - Calcite, Dolomite
- Sulphates - Barite, Celestite, Gypsum (var. Selenite)
- Sulphides - Galena, Marcasite, Pyrite, Sphalerite
- Halides - Fluorite
- Oxides - Magnetite

Other - Fossils (coral), Hydrocarbons

1 Comments:

1. Dolomite is whitish or pinkish. Unusual tiny saddle-shaped crystals are made of small misaligned blocks that produce curved crystal faces.
2. Sphalerite is generally lighter in colour than Dundas sphalerite and appears a gemmy yellow colour.
3. The barite is very white and platy when crystallized.
4. Very sharp octahedral galena crystals have been found.
5. Vugs with nice associations of galena, barite, marcasite and dolomite occur. Via T. Jokela



Calcite From the Collection of T. Jokela

DUNDAS FIELD TRIP—SUNDAY MAY 10/09

Hello All, Please read all of the following:

Dundas (Lafarge) Field trip has been confirmed. Please note that there are many changes to admittance of the Quarry have been implemented as a result of the incident that happened last September 2008. We have made the following changes. Number ONE and Fore-most is the restriction to the size of the group entering the quarry.

The attendance will be restricted to 40 people plus BGS group 16 years and over who MUST be on a confirmation list and members of a CCFMS club - NO EXCEPTIONS. If you are not on the list you will not be allowed into the Quarry.

BGS will also have 10 confirmed members plus a monitor included in this field trip.

You will be restricted to collect in only areas of the quarry with an assigned field trip leader. Group size is limited to 10 people plus field trip leader.

Vehicle list has been modified and Tag in Tag out policy is still in effect and will be your confirmation number. Field trip will be from 9:00 am till 3:00 pm.

One important thing we require is that everyone be a member of the club (or a CCFMS club) and that they have a current membership card on them when on a trip.

You must adhere to the rules of keeping away from the wall even on the piles. The rule of thumb is 1 foot out for every 1 foot of wall height and in most cases would be at least 40 feet away, again "NO EXCEPTIONS".

Please send me an email with full name and CCFMS club for confirmation number. jrglen@sympatico.ca

I will only accept 2 names max on an email. Once I have 40 names I will send an email saying that the list is full and there is not any room for more people.

Please adhere to these new rules as we cannot afford to loose this great collecting site as a result of someone's stupidity. Loss of this site could result in the loss of all Lafarge sites.

I am also sure that as a result of last the incident of last year we will be watched closely by Lafarge staff on this day so we must adhere to the rules.

**** SAFETY VESTS, HARD HATS, SAFETY BOOTS AND SAFETY GLASSES ARE TO BE WORN IN THE QUARRY. ****

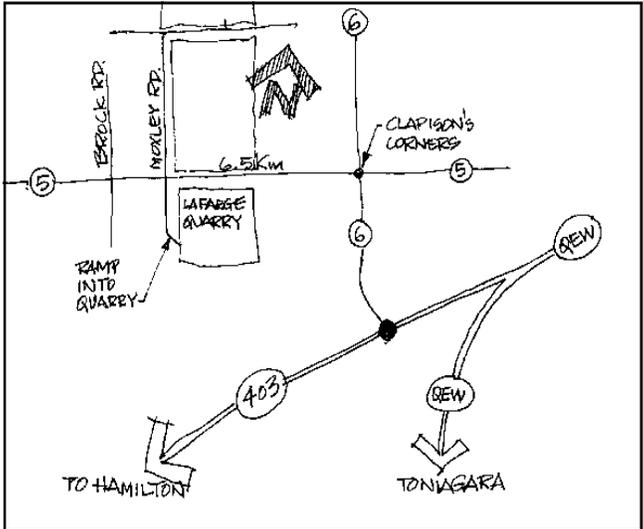
We will meet at Moxley Road and Highway 5 at 8:30 AM on Sunday May 10 for sign in on confirmation list. Safety talk will take place prior to entering the Quarry at 9:00 AM

NO LATE ARRIVALS - YOU will not be allowed in the Quarry

Remember - If you are not confirmed on my list, YOU are not entering the Quarry.

NO EXCEPTIONS

I am sorry for the way the trip has to go. As we move forward we will increase the size of the group.



Celestite (left) and Calcite (above) Dundas Quarry from the collection of Tim Elliott

Signs Outside Churches

Speak well of your enemies after all you made them.

God is perfect only man makes mistakes.

Adam blamed eve, eve blamed the snake and the snake didn't have a leg to stand on.

AMMONITES

Ammonites were ancient cephalopods, in the same class as the modern-day squid, octopus, and the spiral-shelled chambered nautilus. They began to appear in the early Devonian Period, about 405 million years ago. After flourishing for 330 million years they died out -- along with the dinosaurs and about 85% of all species then living -- at the end of the Cretaceous Period, in what is known as the K-T Extinction.

Ammonites are a common find in parts of the world as diverse as Morocco and Canada and they often are used as index fossils to help date unknown fossils found in the same strata. The Egyptians were familiar with ammonites, and named them after their god of life and procreation, Amon, who was often depicted with coiled ram's horns. However, it wasn't until the late 17th century that they were recognized as fossils.

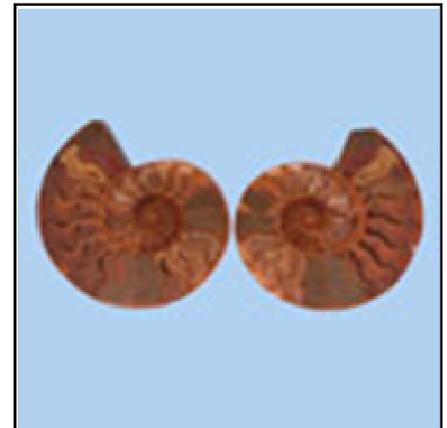
Though not all of them had a tightly coiled spiral shell, ammonites most closely resemble the modern chambered nautilus. Paleontologists theorize that the creature which possessed that shell was quite similar to the nautilus, with a soft body filling

the last chamber and tentacles extending outside the shell. The other chambers could be filled with either fluids or gas, depending on whether the creature needed buoyancy or enough weight to sink deeper in the water. A central tube hints at the ability to propel itself by means of a concentrated stream of water, as does the modern squid. Ammonites are thought to have been predators, and to have been relatively quite intelligent -- able to learn and to take care of their offspring.

An important difference between the chambered nautilus and ammonites is the appearance of the *septa*, the divisions between the shell's chambers. Nautiloids show a simple curve in cross-section, and the sutures -- the connections between septa and shell -- are also simple. The septa of the ammonoids tend to be more complex, and ammonite specimens whose shells have worn away will show an intricately folded suture pattern. The complex sutures gave more strength to the thin shell and incidentally has provided paleontologists with a good way to identify a particular species.

THE TELEPHONE CITY CRYSTAL

Many ammonite specimens have an iridescent surface. This is original shell material, not a mineral replacement, although it is in part mineral. The shells consist of alternating layers of conchilin, a protein, and aragonite, a carbonate closely related to calcite. Calcite itself is often found in ammonites as a replacement mineral as are pyrite (also known as fool's gold), agate, and jasper. The processes of permineralization and petrification can produce spectacularly beautiful specimens where the inner chambers are filled with a pastel calcite or quartz mineral, and the septa have been replaced with shining pyrite.



Field Trip Equipment List

The following represents an extensive list of equipment which is useful for field trips but should be tailored to individual requirements.

Preliminary Items: Maps, guide books, Journal Articles, field trip diary, etc.

Safety Items: First Aid Kit, appropriate shoes, sun screen, compass, safety glasses, hard hat, safety vest, aspirin, matches, portable radio

Personal Comfort: Toilet paper, hand soap, water, lunch, snack, rain gear, warm clothes, insect repellent, paper towels, gloves, camera, folding chair, hand or skin cream, hat, walking stick.

Rockhound Tools: Rock hammer, chisels (various), screw drivers, Gad pry bar, crack hammer 3-5 lb., long handle shovel, probes, hand rake, hand shovel, trenching tool, bow saw, axe, hoe pick, knee pads, carpet remnants, back pack, or knapsack, packing material, beer flats, knife, screens (1/4" and 1/2"), stiff brush, wrapping paper.

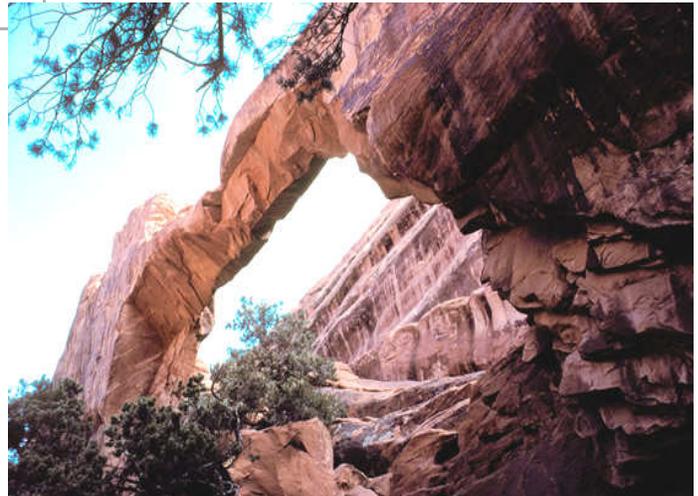
Other Accessories: Orange marking tape, flash lights, dental picks, tooth brush, mineral ID kit, magnification lens, pencil and paper, field glasses, rope, plastic or trash bags, tweezers, long handle scoop, back brace.

High Tech: Portable black light, GPS (global positioning), Video camera, CB or Walkie Talkie, Altimeter, Cell Phone, metal detector, Geiger counter.

Other: Champagne, and Balloons

*Wall Arch Collapses Before and After
Photos from the National Park Service.*

National Park Service Photo of Wall Arch before the fall.



On August 7, 2008, representatives from both the National Park Service Geologic Resources Division and the Utah Geological Survey visited the site and noted obvious stress fractures in the remaining formation. Rock debris has completely blocked this section of the trail. The closure will remain in effect until visitor safety issues can be resolved.

First reported and named by Lewis T. McKinney in 1948, Wall Arch was a free standing arch in the Slickrock member of the Entrada sandstone. The opening beneath the span was 71-feet wide and 33-1/2 feet high. It ranked 12th in size among the over 2,000 known arches in the park.

All arches are but temporary features and all will eventually succumb to the forces of gravity and erosion. While the geologic forces that created the arches are still very much underway, in human terms it's rare to observe such dramatic changes. No one has reported observing the arch collapse and there were no visitor injuries.

Thundereggs- These rounded nodules of matrix filled with agate were formed over a period of millions of years. They were formed in beds of volcanic ash. When the agate-filled nodules have a mossy appearance, or show a scene, they are choice and make fine specimens for display. Occasionally slices off the nodules are used in bolo ties. Many years ago the Oregon Warm Springs Indians discovered these rounded nodules on the plains. They believed that the "Gods of Thunder" atop the mountains threw them at each other in anger. So they named them *thundereggs*. (Via Wikipedia)



Top: Nevada & Oregon

Bottom: Oregon & Germany

The thunderegg has been officially been named the Oregon State rock. (1965)

BRANTFORD LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY

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

Website: www.brantfordlapidarymineral.ca

2009 Executive

PRESIDENT: JOHN MOONS	PHONE	519-752-9756	EMAIL: campbell.moons@sympatico.ca
VICE PRESIDENT: ERNIE EDMONDS		519-583-9457	
TREASURER: KAREN WARD		905-525-0779	karenward@sympatico.ca
SECRETARY: KATHY CAMPBELL		519-442-6542	kathy.camp@hotmail.com
SHOW CHAIR 2009; JENNY JONES		519-750-0953	turtlefeathers@net
SHOW CHAIR 2010: BOB PARRY		519-448-1236	robert@roberthalloriginals
NEWSLETTER EDITOR; ROGER CAMPBELL		519-442-6542	roger.camp@sympatico.ca
SOCIAL: SUSAN WAKELEY		519-752-7690	suewake28@execulink.com
PROGRAM: PHYLLIS CZARNOWSKI		519-752-8276	
FIELD TRIPS: REMOND LEHOUX		519-822-8523	
CCFMS REP.: KIM AND MARCEL LEBLANC		519-442-7372	marcell@execulink.com

AGATE

No gemstone is more creatively striped by Nature than agate, chalcedony quartz that forms in concentric layers in a wide variety of colours and textures. Each individual agate forms by filling a cavity in host rock. As a result, agate is often found as a round nodule, with concentric bands like the rings of a tree trunk. The bands sometimes look like eyes, fanciful scallops, or even a landscape with trees.

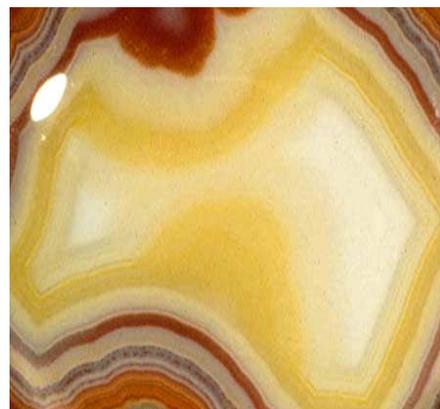
Agate was highly valued as a talisman or amulet in ancient times. It was said to quench thirst and protect against fever. Persian magicians used agate to divert storms. A famous collection of two to four thousand agate bowls which was accumulated by Mithridates, king of Pontus, shows the enthusiasm with which agate was regarded. Agate bowls were also popular in the Byz-

antine Empire. Collecting agate bowls became common among European royalty during the Renaissance and many museums in Europe, including the Louvre, have spectacular examples.

The mining of agate in the Nahe River valley in Germany, which was already documented in 1497, gave rise to the cutting-centre of Idar-Oberstein. Originally, the river was used to power the grinding-wheels. When the Nahe agate deposit had been exhausted, in the nineteenth century, Idar-Oberstein's cutters started to develop the agate deposits of Brazil, which sparked off exploration and the discovery of Brazil's rich deposits of amethyst, citrine, tourmaline, topaz, and other gemstones.

Although the small town of Idar-Oberstein is still known for the finest agate carving in the world, it now imports a huge range of other gem materials from around the

world, which are then cut and carved in Germany and Asia. Cameo master carvers and modern lapidaries flourish along with rough-stone dealers who scour the world for the latest gem discoveries for export. And this entire industry sprang from that taste for agate bowls and ornaments during the Renaissance! Maybe agate is also a powerful talisman for success in international trade!



COMING EVENTS

- 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.ccfms.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>
- 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
- July 26** Bancroft Gem & Mineral Club 13th Annual Gem & Mineral Show
Sunday 10am -4 pm
Bancroft Legion Hall, Station St. Bancroft, ON
Admission: \$2/adult, children & students (18 yrs & under) free
Contact: Al Burnett, R.R.1, Bancroft, ON, K0L 1C0; e-mail: alrock16@yahoo.ca
- July 30 -** 46th Annual Rockhound Gemboree - "Canada's largest gem & mineral show"
Aug 2 Thurs. 10am-7pm, Fri. 10am-7pm, Sat. 10 am-7pm, Sun. 10 am-5pm
Features: Canada's largest gem & mineral show brings together over 110 dealers of fine mineral specimens, gemstone jewellery, and lapidary supplies. Highlights of the show include gold panning booth, rock and gem talks with geologists from Natural Resources Canada, a swapping area, a mineral display and expert mineral identification services offered by Malcolm Back of the ROM, and geologist-led mineral collecting field trips.
Contact: 888-443-9999; Website: http://www.bancroftdistrict.com/Tourism/rock_hound_gem.php



One of our young members Brook Gage assists Ken in showing a scolecite specimen to the members at our April meeting. Brook was Ken's security guard to remind members like Stu C. not to handle the fragile pieces.



Ken Dardano displays Quartz



Members News:

Our Arkona trip was cancelled on Sunday Apr. 26 with a turn in the weather. Kathy & I watched the storm approach over Lake Huron at Kincardine on Sat. and knew our fossil trip was unfortunately in jeopardy. Kudos to the Gages, LeBlancs and Judy and Alison for being avid rockhounds but I assured them that collecting would be no fun in the saturated clay. We will certainly plan for another date later in May or early June.

APRIL MEETING 2009

Ken Dardano, our guest speaker at the April meeting, kept our large attendance in a state of interest as he told of his history from collecting stones as child through his education and how he became intrigued with hobby to the extent of becoming a dealer at mineral shows. Ken included many samples of minerals that he has collected in the Bancroft area as well as specimens collected on his trips to India. Note that Ken and his wife are opening a store in Elora on May 9th (65 Metcalfe St.) Thanks Ken for an enjoyable program.

Winners of the Kyanite specimens were Brad M., Carrie Gage, and Laverne Edgar.

MINERAL OF THE MONTH - HEMATITE

Hematite is commonly seen as a silvery, shiny opaque stone that almost looks like metal. Hematite also occurs naturally in red to reddish-brown earthy masses, known as red ochre or ruddle, and in steel-gray to black crystalline forms, known as specular hematite. Hematite is heavy and a relatively hard oxide mineral because of its high iron content (about 70 percent). The most important sources of hematite come from sedimentary deposits in the Lake Superior and Birmingham district in North America. Other important locations include Minas Gerais (Brazil), Cerro Bolivar (Venezuela), Labrador, and Quebec.

Hematite also has a history of metaphysical uses. Tribes in America used ochre as red war paint. The Roman soldiers associated this "blood stone" with Mars, the god of war. Warriors believed carrying hematite would give strength and protection to the wearer in battle. The mirror effect of polished hematite protects one from negativity by reflecting back any unwanted energy. Crystal healers credit hematite with the ability to bring about a calm mental state, improve memory and concentration, boost self-confidence, and increase the effectiveness of logical processes of the brain. Physically, hematite is believed to increase circulation, especially to the area where worn, and give all-around positive effects to the circulatory system. The astrological signs of hematite are Aries and Aquarius.

Hematite: Fe₂O₃, Iron (III) Oxide

Hardness: 5.5-6.5

Luster: metallic or dull in earthy and oolitic forms

Class: oxides and hydroxides

Color: steel or silver gray to black in some forms and red to brown in earthy forms

Transparency: opaque

Fracture: uneven to conchoidal

Crystal system: trigonal - hexagonal; bar 3 2/m

(From Mama's Minerals Website)

