
The Rockhound's Bark

The Nova Scotia Mineral and Gem Society Newsletter

October 2006



ABOUT THE SOCIETY

Meetings are held the last Saturday of each month, September-November and January-May, 7:30 - 10:00 p.m. in the auditorium (Lower Level) of the N.S. Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer St., Halifax. Dues are \$20/year, payable in January of each year.

2006 EXECUTIVE

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|------------------------|----------------------------|
| President: | Ronnie Van Dommelen |
| Vice President: | Fred Walsh |
| Secretary: | Imelda O'Toole |
| Treasurer: | Terry Collett |
| Bark Editor: | Ken McKenzie |
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SOCIETY'S MAILING ADDRESS

The Nova Scotia Mineral and Gem Society
c/o NS Museum of Natural History
1747 Summer Street, Halifax, N.S., B3H 3A6

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE

November 18, 2006.

NEXT MEETING

By Ken McKenzie and Ronnie Van Dommelen

Hot on the heels of our September discussion of the Brier Island copper mine, Greg Breed will give a talk on Michigan Copper Country at our next meeting on October 28. He might also talk about the famous Seaman Museum and maybe agates.

If you haven't guessed, the mineral theme this month will be copper.

N.S. GOLD MINING PROSPECTUS

By Edward Rix (elrix@allsaintswynne.org)

I have in my possession another N.S. Gold Mining prospectus. This one is for the Evangeline Gold Mining and Milling Company, Limited. It's smaller than the last one at 4 & 1/2 x 6 but has lots of interesting information and manuscript corrections to the text regarding this concern which operated in Cow Bay (other side of Eastern Passage). There are four b&w photos and a nice folding map (9 x 11 & 1/2) by John Harland (the surveyor of the area, whose one page special report on the mine occupies the last page of text). There is some damage to the item. The title, which is printed diagonally on the blue printed wraps, has the word "Evangeline" cut out of it leaving a three inch hole on the cover. The title page appears to be removed and all references to "Evangeline" seem to be overwritten or whited-out. This perhaps indicates some change of hands/titles, etc. All in all an interesting bit of N.S. Geological/Mining history with dates in the text indicating its vintage to be 1900. Check out the following u.r.l. for

information:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~nshalifa/Ch27.html>

It's in the offing for \$40.00 U.S. or the equivalent in Canadian Dollars.

2007

By Ken McKenzie

The year 2007 is quickly approaching and with it our 50th anniversary. Some anniversary projects are underway and other opportunities are presenting themselves, so let's start discussing how we can capitalize on this golden opportunity to attract some attention and new members to the club.

For those of you who didn't get the 'golden opportunity' joke in the last paragraph, gold is the traditional gift for 50th anniversaries. Given our general interest in gold, it would be fitting to have gold as running theme throughout the year, with talks on gold mining and maybe even some field trips to gold mines, sites, or panning locations.

Gordon Stewart is making headway with his effort to uncover the lost history of the club. He recently made contact with John Hood of Yarmouth, whose father, Clifford Hood, was one of the founding members of the club. Mr. Hood, Jr, attended many of the early meetings as a boy and has some memories of what transpired that are helping Gordon with his research. He also has copies of *the Rockhound's Bark* from early years, which we are hoping to copy. As Mr. Hood travels to Halifax frequently, we are hoping to have him at one our future meetings to discuss the club's early history with us all.

As we acquire more and more old Barks, I'm hoping to scan them all to put on the web site or CD for distribution to mem-

bers. Although we have almost all issues going back to 1979 (see the November 2005 Bark for a list of exactly what we do have), we could really use copies of any earlier editions that can be found.

Also on the compilation c.d. I hope to put scans of Harry Crosman's slides that Terry Collett currently is in possession of. If anyone has any photos from past meetings, workshops, or field trips, I would love to include them as well. Either send me scans, or let me borrow the originals (or negatives) and I will scan them for you.

Ronnie mentioned last month that the museum is looking for us to do an open house on a Sunday in January or February, but we failed to discuss it at the September meeting. Although we haven't had the enthusiasm or manpower to do anything like this in the last few years, perhaps we could make an extra effort in the name of our 50th year. Ideal dates would be January 21 or February 18, in order to attract some new people to our monthly meetings the following weeks.

Other ideas for capitalizing on our 50th anniversary are welcome and could be discussed at the next meeting.



(N.S. geological map used with permission from the N.S. Department of Natural Resources)