



# ROCK PICKENS

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB Date: October 2025



Next meeting is at 5:30 PM, November 11<sup>th</sup> at the Canton Library, 8 Park St., downstairs in the Paige Room. Please return signs and bases to be taken to storage shed.

## \*\*\*Club Dues\*\*\*

Dues are only **\$15.00** for a Single Membership and **\$25.00** for Family memberships

### Memberships run through 12-31-25

(Family memberships cover family members residing in the same household with the same USPS mailing address)

Make checks payable to: **St. Lawrence Rock and Mineral Club** and mail them to:

William deLorraine  
1 Indian Head Trail  
Gouverneur, NY 13642

**President:** William deLorraine  
**Vice President:** Preston Zeallor  
**Secretary:** Joanna deLorraine  
**Treasurer:** (Acting: Joanna deLorraine)  
**Field Trip Coordinators:** Preston Zeallor, James Taylor.  
**Field Trip Scout:** Noah King  
**Safety Coordinator:** James Taylor  
**Newsletter Editor:** William deLorraine  
**Newsletter Assistant Editor:** Amanda Fogg  
**Show Chair:** William deLorraine  
**Advertising:** Joanna deLorraine  
**Webmaster:** Glen Simonelli

Effective: January 01, 2025 - December 31, 2025

## 2025 Gem, Mineral, Fossil, and Jewelry Shows

### **Crystal Fest Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry show November 22 & 23, 2025**

Sponsored by The Finger Lakes Gem, Mineral and Fossil Club

100 Nasser Civic Center Plaza, Corning, NY  
Saturday 10- 6pm; Sunday 10am to 4pm

### **Finger Lakes Holiday Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show**

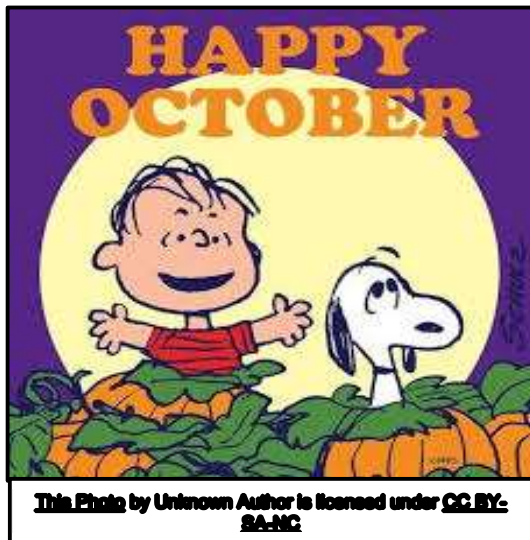
November 29 & 30, 2025; Sat. 10-6 pm

Sun. 10 - 4 pm

Canandaigua American Legion, 454 N. Main St  
Canandaigua, NY

### **Field Trips:**

Contact VP & Field Trip Coordinator:  
Preston Zeallor  
315-244-3040



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## **Visit us at:**

[www.stlawrencecountymineralclub.org](http://www.stlawrencecountymineralclub.org)

Here you will find upcoming events, notes from club meetings, pictures, membership applications, and much more!



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## Minutes of the September 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting:

- 12 members attended the meeting which began at 5:37 PM.
- Bill welcomed everyone and we went around the room with introductions.
- There were four new members in attendance.
- We talked about the show a little. Joanna told about an older couple who came to the show. The lady did not want to come in because NO WAY was she going to spend \$5. She turned around and left. Her husband went to the door and begged her to come back. Heated words were exchanged, and he brought her back in – under protest. Joanna said she noticed them when they left; the lady had a bag full of specimens and a smile on her face.
- We talked about the yellow show signs, how they were the “number one” for advertising. We took a survey in years past and not one of the attendees said “Radio” was where they heard about the show. We do need more signs and lots more bases for them.
- The two new black light tents were a big success and well received.
- Barry mentioned that he has about 30-35 scouts coming to camp out on his land in Russel. Melissa and Preston will be set up there and will teach some classes. He has quartz veins on his land for them to explore.
- “Mineral Kits for Kids” went very well again at the show. Friday evening Dino set up for the kids fluorescent hunt and did an amazing job.
- Improvements for the show: Traffic coming in and going improved some because of the change in direction coming in and going.
- One vendor was about ½ hr. over the allotted time to leave the show area. But we were not charged overtime, this time. Bill noted that maybe vendors could be moved closer to the center to make more room for traffic.
- Joanna noted that at admissions some children wanted their hand stamped and one little one asked for a sucker, like at the dentist’s office. Next year we will have them on hand. Also stickers are a good idea for kids coming to the show.
- All great comments on the new T-shirts Heather ordered. We did have a lot left over. Bill noted that someone said at the T-shirt table “we have to make a profit on them”. But selling them at cost is better than having a lot left over from year to year. It is good advertising for our show. We see vendors at other shows wearing our T-shirts. Carlene noted that it might be an idea to have a different logo each year or have a contest for kids and choose the best logo.
- Barry noted that he knows the people who run the movie theater in Canton and that might be a good, cost effective, idea to have our show on the marquee. He also said that the village put our show banner up in the park a little late and that it was up so high it was hard to see.
- Heather made a motion to increase the advertising budget to \$1,000, up from \$700.
- Ashley seconded the motion. All in favor.
- It was noted that some fire departments have marquees and that such venues would also be useful for posting our show date advertisements.



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- New member Maggie Mitchell, volunteered to take on the Advertising experience. Thank you Maggie! She has much experience in advertising.
- Bob asked, again, about doing an audit maybe in November. Joanna noted It would take a considerable amount of work to dig through all the totes in the storage shed and other places to find each year. Joanna said he is welcome to do this. We have had many Treasurers in the past. Bob said that just this year would be fine. Joanna will bring the information needed to the Executive Committee for the current year that she took over the vacant position (April – Nov.) when needed. It was noted that most small Non for Profit organizations whose budgets are less than \$50,000 do not feel compelled to do this.
- The door prize winner was new member, Gabriel St. Martin. It was a polished black and white “Orka stone” from Madagascar.

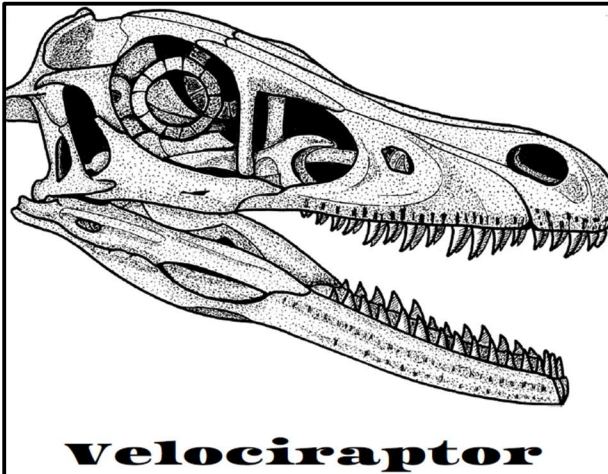
## Dinosaurs

Eoraptor, one of the earliest known dinosaurs, gives us a fascinating glimpse into the dawn of dinosaur evolution. Discovered in the Ischigualasto Formation of Argentina, *Eoraptor* roamed the Earth approximately 231.4 million years ago, during the Late Triassic Period. About the size of a small dog. (Note the differing artist's conceptions, below)



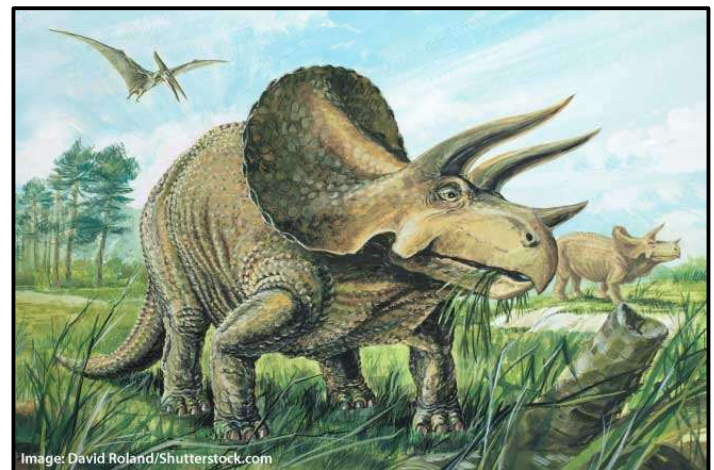
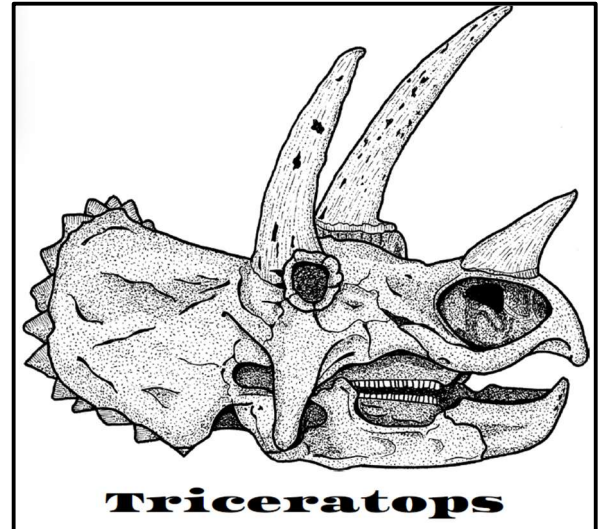
## Mineral of the Month (?) \*

We thought it appropos to substitute “Dinosaurs of the Millennia” for Mineral of the Month, inasmuch as Dave Millis is talking about Dinosaurs during the next Club meeting at the Canton Library.

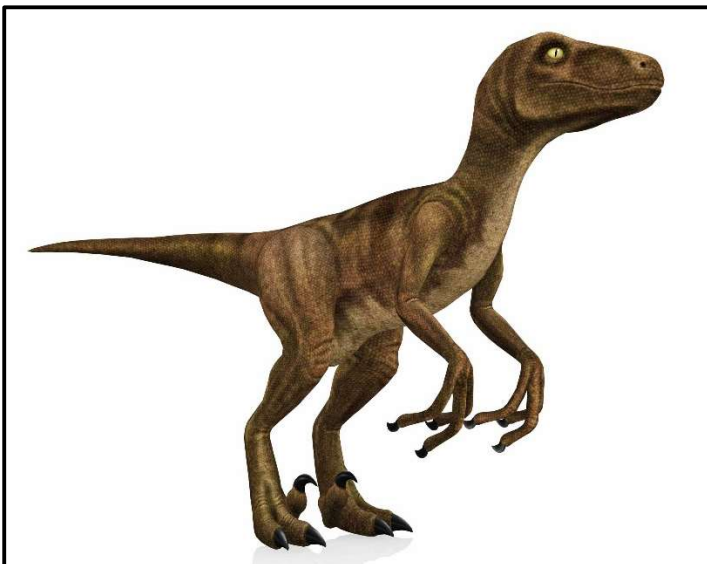


The **velociraptor** was a fast-moving and dangerous predator of the Cretaceous Period. It's one of the best-known dinosaurs, having been made famous by the Jurassic Park films.

Taken from:



**Triceratops**, whose name means 'three-horned face,' is one of the most recognizable dinosaurs. Triceratops may have been a plant eater, but with its three fearsome horns, armored frill, and powerful body, it was no pushover. It couldn't afford to be: it lived at the same time, and in the same places, as the fearsome [Tyrannosaurus Rex](#).



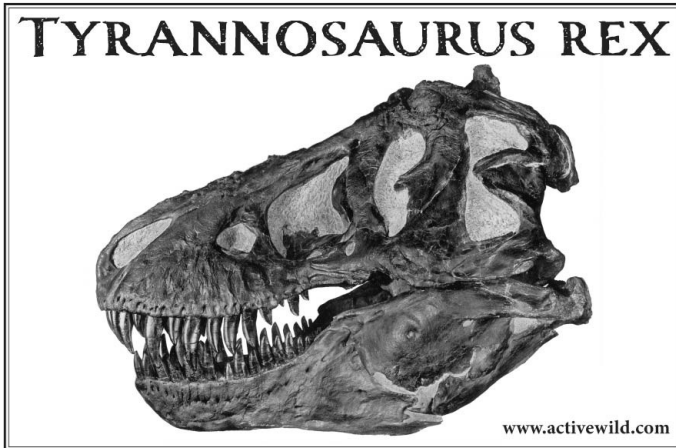


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## “First Bird”



Archaeopteryx is famous for being the ‘first bird.’ However, despite having feathers and wings, this late Cretaceous animal still retains very un-birdlike characteristics, such as teeth and bony tail. It’s a true ‘transitional’ animal.



Archaeopteryx fossil feather, below



***Tyrannosaurus rex***, or T. rex for short, was a predatory theropod dinosaur. One of the largest land predators that ever lived, Tyrannosaurus rex was longer than a bus, weighed more than five cars, and was equipped with incredibly powerful jaws.

From:





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In the late 1970s, geologist Walter Alvarez and his father, Nobel Prize-winning scientist Luis Walter Alvarez, put forth their theory that the Cretaceous–Paleogene extinction was caused by an impact event. (Wikipedia)  
AKA the “KT” boundary

## Geological Evidence

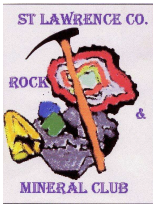
- **Iridium Anomaly:** A thin, worldwide layer of clay marks the K-T boundary (Cretaceous -Tertiary, around 66 million years ago). It contains unusually high concentrations of the element iridium, which is extremely rare in the Earth's crust but abundant in asteroids and other extraterrestrial materials, strongly suggesting an impact event was the source.
- **Chicxulub Crater:** The discovery of a massive impact crater, over 180 kilometers (**110 miles**) in diameter, on the Yucatán Peninsula in Mexico provided the "smoking gun" for the theory. The

crater's age of approximately 66 million years aligns perfectly with the K-Pg extinction event.

- **Shocked Quartz and Tektites:** Geologists have found **shocked quartz** crystals (minerals with a unique, high-pressure fracture pattern only produced by immense explosions or impacts) and small, glass-like beads called **tektites** (melted rock that cooled rapidly in the atmosphere) in K-T boundary layers around the world.
- **Soot and Tsunami Deposits:** The K-T boundary layer also contains a global layer of soot from widespread wildfires, and geological formations (such as the "Cretaceous-Tertiary cocktail") in North America show evidence of massive tsunamis, with deposits of disturbed ocean floor sediments and land plants found far inland.

## Paleontological Evidence

- **Abrupt Extinction in the Fossil Record:** The fossil record shows a sudden "now you see them, now you don't" end to **non-avian** dinosaurs and many other species at the K-Boundary. This pattern points to a catastrophic, rapid event rather than a gradual decline.



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- **Mass Death Assemblages:** Specific fossil sites, like the Tanis site in North Dakota, contain a mass grave of fish and other organisms that died in the immediate aftermath of the impact, with impact debris (glass spherules) lodged in their gills, indicating the rapid onset of the catastrophe.



Artist's rendering of the bolide impact that created the Chicxulub crater. The asteroid is estimated to have been 6 to 12 miles (10 to 20 km) wide.

## Notes From the President:



"Dinosaurs" during our upcoming club meeting, Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, I took some time to depict some of the more well-known and famous dinosaurs in this edition of our newsletter, rather than the traditional "Mineral of the Month". I hope you appreciate the change this one time and enjoy the learning experience.

It's always fun during the meetings to have a good "Show and Tell" time and last meeting was no exception. Many thanks to Linda Schnittger for bringing in samples from her and Mark's trip to Oregon earlier in the year. I am trying to arrange to have presentations at meetings as well as illustrated PowerPoint shows as highlights to informative, interesting, and above all – **fun** meetings.

I point this out because sometimes it seems to have fallen from perception that there are kids present during the meetings. For starters, the business aspects of meetings are BORING and for another, when for whatever reason the atmosphere degrades to one of contention or confrontation, it is much the worse for all of us—especially the kids. Accordingly, henceforth, if there is anyone with perceived grievances, gripes, or "issues", they will be politely asked to bring these up for discussion at a separate venue or forum—a Zoom meeting—that will be arranged for a separate time other than our club meeting. We're all there to share good times, good findings, knowledge, experiences, to help others, share with kids... not to "pick" but to go out and use our hammers and picks to pursue our hobby and disport of mineral collecting. (How'd you like that word, **disport**? New word of the day for me: "A pastime, game, or sport." Thought I'd end on a light note, LOL.)  
—Bill--

## Greetings fellow collectors!

Inasmuch as we have distinguished club member Dave Millis presenting a talk on

See [Geologic Time Scale](#), next page...



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## GEOLOGIC TIME SCALE

Worldwide clay layer  
High amounts of Iridium

K-T boundary  
horizon

The Age of  
Dinosaurs

Eras	Periods		
<b>Cenozoic</b> (Recent Life) 65 mya - Now	Quaternary - Humans 2.6 million years ago ~ Present		
	Tertiary - Mammals Diversify 65 ~ 2.6 million years ago		
<b>Mesozoic</b> (Middle Life) 252 ~ 65 million years ago	Cretaceous - Extinction of Dinosaurs; Emergence of First Flowering plants 145 ~ 65 million years ago		
	Jurassic - Dinosaurs Diversify; First Birds 201 ~ 145 million years ago		
	Triassic - First Dinosaurs; First Mammals 252 ~ 201 million years ago		
<b>Paleozoic</b> (Ancient Life) 359 ~ 252 million years ago	Permian - Reptiles Diversify; Major Extinction 299~252 mya		
	Carboniferous 359 ~ 299 mya	Pennsylvanian	First Trees & Ferns
		Mississippian	
	Devonian-Jawed Fish; First Amphibians 419~359 mya		
	Silurian - First land plants with veins 444 ~ 419 mya		
	Ordovician - Rapid diversification of many ocean species. 485 ~ 444 million years ago (mya)		
	Cambrian - Stromatolites; Beginning of Shelled Animals 541 ~ 485 million years ago (mya)		
<b>Precambrian</b> 4.6 billion ~ 541 million years ago (mya) 7/8ths of the Earth's history is in Precambrian time. Fossils from this time, however, are mostly stromatolites. Rarely, fossilized cells are discovered.			

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