



The Treasure Chest

NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH JERSEY MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY
Charter Member of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary
Societies and affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



Volume 71, Issue 7

www.NoJMS.webs.com

Thursday, October 8, 2015

717th Meeting – Thursday, October 8, 2015

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Social/Mineral Sales.....6:30 PM
Meeting.....7:30 PM
Program..... 8:00PM - 9:00PM

Happy Fall!

I want to thank the gang at Sterling Hill, for hosting our Picnic again this year. An incredible day was had by all!

PROGRAM

“Geology and Mineralogy of Staten Island”

Speaker

Steve Okulewicz

Mineral Madness

PURPOSE

The North Jersey Mineralogical Society is a non-profit, educational organization founded in 1945 whose goal is to bring together people with an interest in Earth Sciences in general and mineral studies in particular. Guests and prospective members are always welcome. Young people under 17 years of age are welcome to attend if accompanied by a parent or adult friend.

As the leaves start to change color, and that fall crispness is in the air, my collecting juices are again flowing!! Our club is again heading out to National Limestone Quarries in Middleburg, Pa. on Oct. 17, for our annual field trip to this fine quarry. After a few hours, we move to their second quarry for another few hours of collecting. Afterward, Jim Van Fleet will again welcome us to his home, to view his incredible fluorescent collection, and do some garage collecting, and, of course, his famous Rockhound's Bar-B-Que!!!! This is an exciting and rewarding trip every year, and should not be missed!

We are putting together one last field trip for the fall, which will be announced shortly.

Our Swap-n-Sell is on Oct. 10 & 11 at Sterling Hill. Come on out and have some fun with everyone swappin' and sellin'!!!

FOR INFORMATION

Jeff Wilson 973-293-7911 or buckwood4@yahoo.com
Steve Wien nojms.newsletter@gmail.com

If inclement weather might cause meeting cancellation, call the museum, one of the officers, or check the club website. If the meeting is not canceled, please use good judgment regarding the driving conditions in your area and if driving, be careful!

I attended the Franklin Show on Sept. 26 & 27. Wow, what a turnaround from the Spring show!! The crowds were great. It was the best turnout I have seen in a long time. There were lots of great dealers. The inside show was also full, and there was plenty of foot traffic. The show was well signed, and you could see that it brought in lots of traffic. It was a very nice show, ran into lots of friends, and I picked up some great minerals and good deals, too.

SEND DUES TO:

Arlene Castleman
126 St. Rte. 46 – 40A
Lodi, NJ 07664
973-591-1942

Individual members: \$12.00
Married couples: \$18.00
Add. Family: \$6.00 ea
Junior members: \$5.00

OFFICERS FOR 2015

President Jeff Wilson
1st VP Ron Schulz
2nd VP Dave Shapiro
Secretary Laura Brecka
Treasurer Arlene Castleman
Assoc. Treas. Mike Machette
Newsletter Steve Wien
Trustees Bryan Davis
Bob Allen
Jess Jacobson

Our Meteorite drawing will be held at our Holiday Party. Tickets are \$5 each, and are still available at our October & November meeting. Get yours now!!!

Finally, DUES ARE DUE!!! Please keep your membership active and get your check in to Arlene ASAP!!! Your dues cover our membership fee in the Eastern Federation, as well as our liability insurance, which allows us to attend our field trips and other activities throughout the year.

See you at the Swap!
Jeff Wilson – President.

Trilobite Ridge Revisited...Again

by Jeff Wilson

As the weather is getting cooler, I have been going on a few exploratory trips around my area, looking for new spots to collect minerals & fossils. So, last weekend, I ended up hiking along Trilobite Ridge for the first time since spring. I stopped in and spoke to the landowner, Leon Smith, and he told me that there have actually been a few small groups that have approached him about collecting the ridge this past summer. He allowed them in. One group was from Monmouth University, and another was from Rutgers. He also said that numerous individual collectors have stopped by. He never refuses a fossil collector access to the ridge, as long as they stop and ask.

Needless to say, with all this collecting activity, I expected to find a mess up there. Well, to my surprise, other than a huge amount of broken fossil rock along the path, the woods looked untouched. I was very appreciative to the collectors for not littering or causing harm to those pristine woods.

Of course, I managed to collect some nice specimens, before the afternoon mosquito hatch sent me packing. I slowly traversed the ridgeline, looking at all the piles of split open limestone from the previous collectors. I found the most productive area this day, to be about 1/2 mile out along the ridge from Mr. Smith's house. This is about the same area where Jess Jacobsen and others on the last club field trip, found some great coral fossils. I found a large rock sticking up out of the ground, and when I split it, it contained numerous Trilobite fossils, along with several brachiopods and crinoids, all preserved in a coarse grained blue limestone. It was definitely worth the long walk in. Just before I hopped on my ATV to head home, I investigated an uprooted tree just off the path near the house, and found another rock containing some weathered out shell fossils, and a couple Trilo's. Also, upon investigating the piles of split rock along the path, I discovered a few worthy specimens, that the previous collectors left behind. To say that my collecting bag was bursting at the seams is an understatement.

It was a nice trip back up to the ridgeline, and I will definitely be returning once the chill of fall sets in for good!

As a reminder to all NoJMS members, though we can not provide a club sponsored trip to this location, you can collect this location, with the OK of Mr. Smith. For info, directions, etc. just contact me. I may even be able to give guided tours if I'm available!

Sterling Hill Picnic Report

by Jeff Wilson

On September 12, we held our annual club picnic and bar-b-que at the Sterling Hill Mining Museum. The weather was pretty good, with the exception of a brief shower just after lunch. In the morning, members were treated to a museum-only tour, led by tour guide Ray. Members oogled at the amazing Oreck collection, and the various artifacts in the main museum. For those who did not want to go on the tour, there was collecting time on the mine dumps, and exploring the mine facility. Then, we all enjoyed some great food, prepared on the custom made bar-b-que pit, designed and built by Bill Kroth, all cooked up by Chef Jeff. Afterward, we were treated to an extraordinary Blackout Mine Tour, led by tour guide extraordinaire, Jeff Winkler! The colors and mineralogy were incredible. The tour lasted over 2 hours and was totally mind-blowing. We explored every single tunnel and passageway in the mine, looking for fluorescent features. It was great! We then spent some quality time in the Warren Museum of Fluorescence. It was a great day, and I can not thank the crew at Sterling Hill enough for their hospitality.

**NOTE FROM OUR EDITOR**

I hope you all enjoy this month's newsletter! I am still reaching out to everyone to request that you please send something in to me relating to rocks, fossils, minerals, gems and collecting in the field. If you see an article, stumble upon news somewhere (it doesn't have to be about New Jersey), or have photos of that "prize" possession, please send it in and I will be sure it gets in the newsletter. Thank you all for your time.

New Bulk Buying Program:

The NoJMS board agreed to try out a "bulk buying" program for our society, wherein we buy mineral and fossil supplies in large volume in order to get a discount, and then sell them to club members at cost to pass these discounts onto members. Our first foray into this program was an order of 10,000 paperboard fold-up boxes from Mineral & Fossil Supply, Inc. These boxes will be available for sale at the February meeting at a discount price to members who are current on their dues. Boxes that are left after the February meeting will be brought to the Clifton show for sale to members as well as non-members (non-members prices will be higher). Depending on the success of the program, future bulk buys on additional boxes as well as other items will be considered. Questions or suggestions regarding the program can be sent to Bryan Davis at blimer4evr@yahoo.com.

FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE FOR 2015

October 17th - National Limestone Quarry, Mt. Pleasant Mills, Pa.

Autumn, 2015 - Montague, NJ for Quartz Crystals

Autumn, 2015 - NE Pennsylvania trip (Carbondale fossils, Scranton Coal Mine, Greentown Country Store)

Details will be available at upcoming club meetings or you can contact Dave Shapiro at dshapiro33@gmail.com

MINUTES OF THE 716th NoJMS MEETING

The meeting was called to order by the president, Jeff Wilson, on Thursday, September 10, 2015. The attendees were a testament to a strong dedication to the club because the participants had to navigate through a stormy evening.

There was an overview of the field trips that took place during the summer. This was followed by a delineation of the schedule events for the remainder of the year. Our calendars were packed over the summer with many offerings and continue to be populated with an array of anticipated future choices.

The treasurer, Arlene Castleman, reported that the club's funds have a healthy balance.

Condolences were expressed for the passing of valued club members, Stan Shapiro and Sarna Strom. Sarna's daughter, Cindy, and Jeff Wilson spent the summer culling through Sarna's vast collection. Many trays of minerals supplied the selections for the Mineral Madness drawing. This was unique because there were three separate drawings within the evening.

The lazy days of summer are ending and the accelerated pace in the fall will include festivities for those rockhounds with a passion for gems and minerals, culminating in the holiday party. We anticipate the whirlwind of activities.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Brecka, Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 3, 2015 - Macungie, Pa. - Annual Autumn Mineralfest, Memorial Park, Macungie

October 10 & 11, 2015 – Ogdensburg, NJ – NoJMS Fall Swap & Sale at Sterling Hill Mining Museum

November 7 & 8, 2015 - Mountainside, NJ – Annual Trailside Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show at the Trailside Nature & Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside, NJ. Sponsored by the New Jersey Mineralogical Society. 12-5pm

2016 SHOWS/EVENTS

April 23 & 24, 2016 - Annual Spring Franklin Gem & Mineral Show & Swap, Franklin Elementary School, Washington Ave. Franklin, NJ

April 23 & 24, 2016 - Annual Sterling Hill Garage Sale

July 7-10, 2016 - Cedarburg, Wisconsin - 1st Annual National AGATE Exposition & Symposium. 77+ Dealers. July 7 - Agate Symposium, July 8-10 - National Agate Exposition. Cedarburg High School, Evergreen Blvd. Cedarburg, Wis.

NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER

We need you to please pay your dues via check as we have a lot of fun activities planned for the year. Thank you.

North Jersey Outdoor Rock & Mineral Swap-N-Sell

October 10 & 11, 2015

9am-5pm



Ogdensburg, NJ

From Rt. 23 and Rt. 15, Exit for Rt. 517 and Follow signs to the Museum.

FREE ADMISSION!

FREE Parking!

Over 30 dealers featuring every rockhound's desires!!

PLUS... WHILE AT THE MUSEUM FACILITY.....

Take the world-famous Underground Mine Tour

See the Oreck Mineral Collection, one of the finest in the world.

View world class fluorescent minerals.

Mineral Collecting on the Mine Run Dumps with paid Museum Admission!

Snack Bar on Premises!(Show Specials all weekend!!)

9-11 Memorial

Museum Gift Shop

JOIN US FOR A GREAT WEEKEND!!!

This is a fun and relaxing outdoor show, with over 30 vendors featuring rocks, minerals, fossils, gemstones, jewelry, stonecrafts, lapidary rough, and much more! Many of our vendors are local collectors who hand-collected most of their offerings. Learn about geology and talk with local collectors about rockhounding in the Tri-State area and beyond! A GREAT show to start your mineral collection, or add to your mineral display. Admission is always FREE!!! A fun day for all!!!

VENDOR INFORMATION:

YOU STILL NEED TO CALL IN AND RESERVE YOUR SPOT!!

Setup time 7am both days. Tables may be left overnight.

Overnight vendor camping allowed. Rest room facilities will remain available 24/7. We even plan on having a BBQ and campfire!!

VENDORS: TO REQUEST a vendor space, please call our automated messaging service at: (862) 200-7646 and leave your name, number, and what you will be selling. Limited spots under the pavillion will be available. Our show chairman will reply to your request as spaces are filled.

ALL VENDOR TENTS MUST BE ANCHORED DOWN Show staff will inspect all tents.

For show info please contact: Show Chairman:

Bryan Davis at blimer4evr@yahoo.com

Please DO NOT call Sterling Hill Mining Museum for information. Thank You.

Table fees collected benefit the NoJMS, a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Educational Organization.



FLUORESCENT MINERAL SOCIETY MEETING

Saturday, December 5, 2015
**9 AM to 4 PM at the GeoTech Center
of the
Sterling Hill Mining Museum,
Ogdensburg, NJ**

A PARTIAL LIST OF FEATURES:

***- Donna Beaton, G.G., of the Gemological Institute of America, will lead a discussion of *Determinants of Color in Natural and Treated Tanzanite*. A lead-in show-and-tell of *Fluorescent Minerals from the Merelani Hills* will accompany her talk.

***- Shirley M. Mueller, MD will visit us from Indianapolis and share her fascinating research on *The Neurophysiology of "Why Collectors Collect"*.

***- Lee McIlvaine will present his findings from *Greenland 15.0*. Howie Green will introduce *The New FMS Mid-West Chapter Scratching the Surface at Cave-in-Rock*. And Ken St. John, Steve Chamberlain, and Mike Walter will present the spoils of their research and trips in *Spectacular Fluorescent Finds at Rose Road*.

***- Graham Fraser will narrate a demonstration of *Puttapa Willemite Invading New Jersey* from his lair 'down under'

***- In the classic *My Favorite Fluorescent Mineral* segment, the audience will be invited to guess the tungstate to molybdate ratio in a series of scheelite and

powellite samples. The winner will be determined using spectrographic data provided by Hellma, USA.

ALL DAY MINERAL TRADE-A-THON EXTRAVAGANZA!

The NE FMS Lunch Players will perform their usual culinary magic- \$10
B.Y.O.Beer

RSVP

REQUIRED FOR ATTENDANCE

E-mail Howie Green at howie@uvminerals.org

Supplemental (E-Newsletter Only)

Sterling Hill Picnic Photos – September 12, 2015

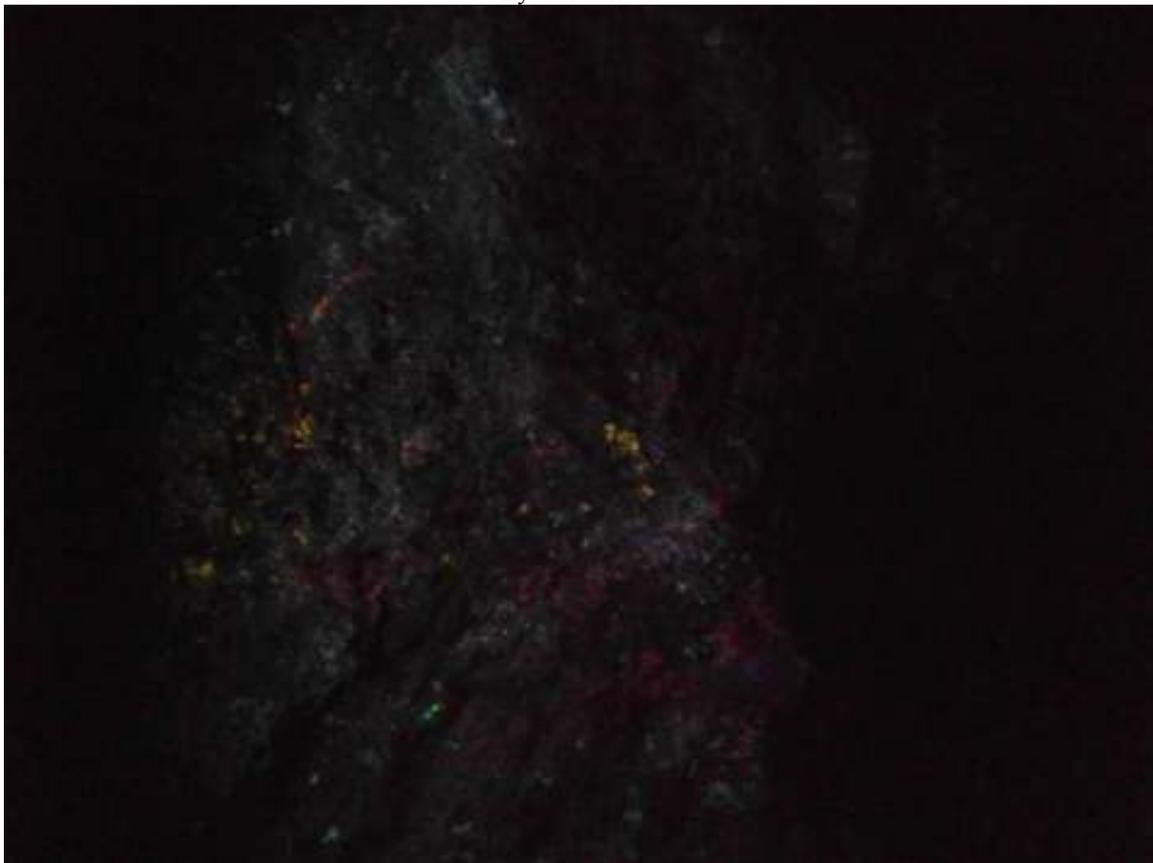
By Jeff Wilson



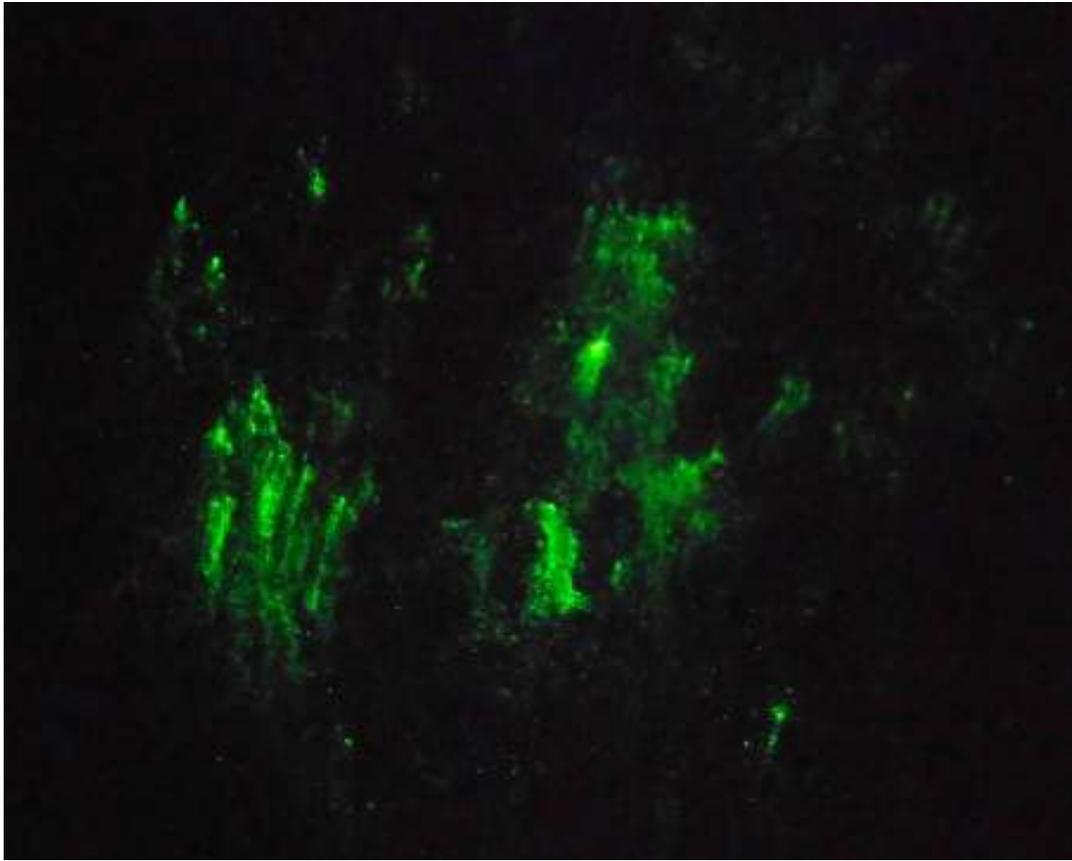




Sterling Hill Picnic BLACKOUT TOUR Photos – September 12, 2015
By Jeff Wilson



The wall of Sphalerite



Willemite oozing through the wall of the mine



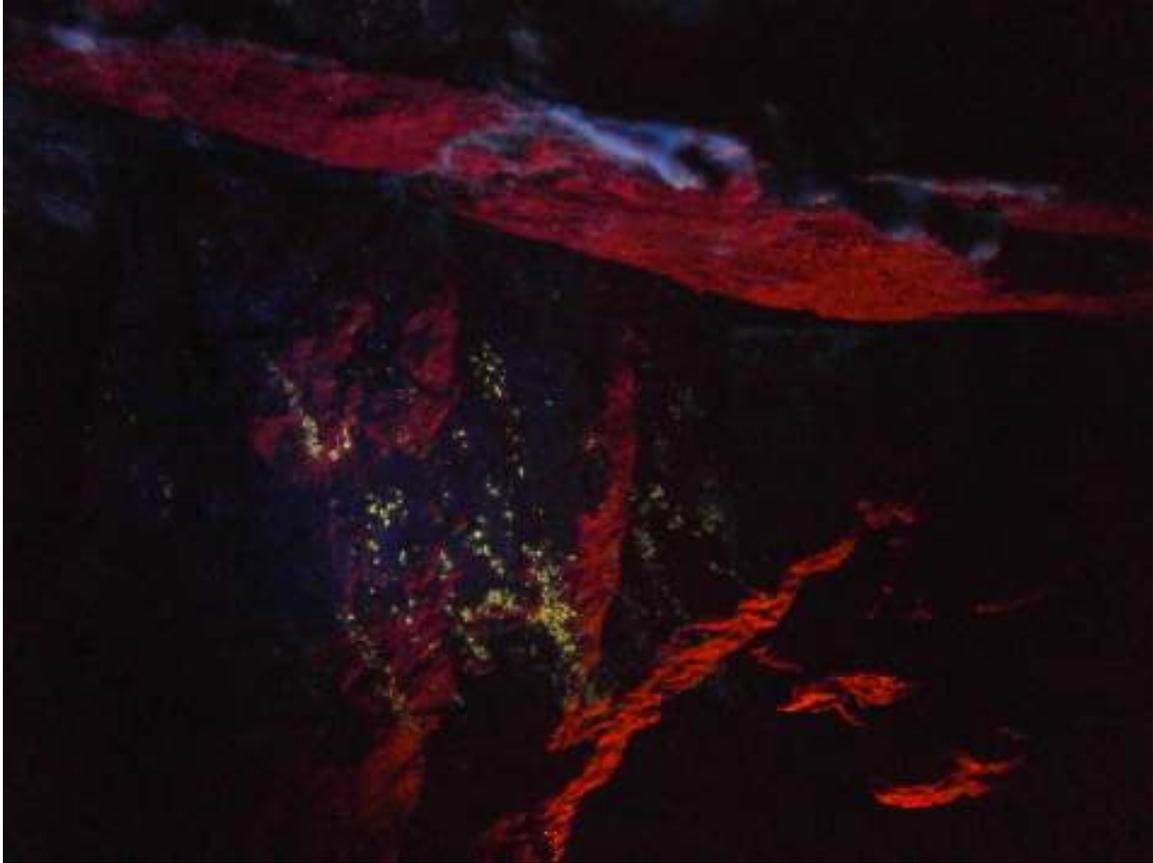
A very fluorescent vein of calcite in the wall



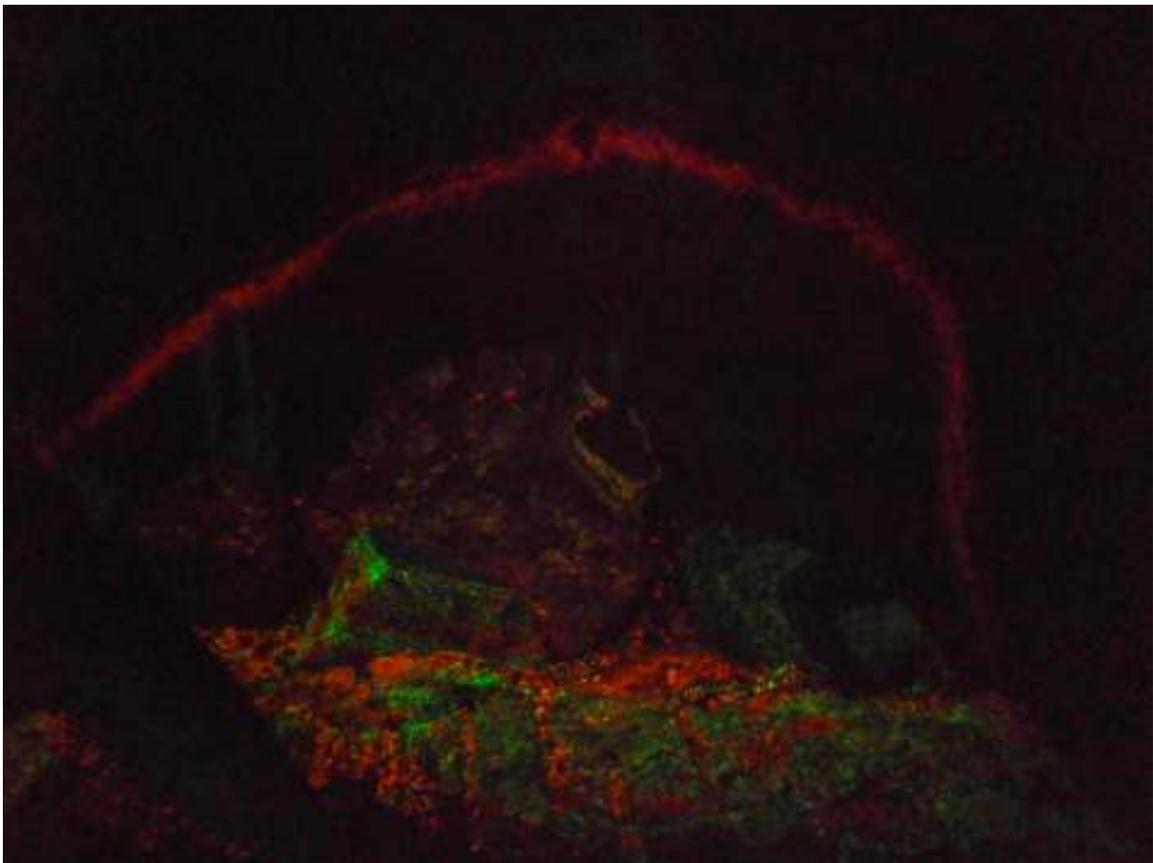
A waterfall of fluorescent flowstone



Rippling Flowstone on the wall of the main tunnel



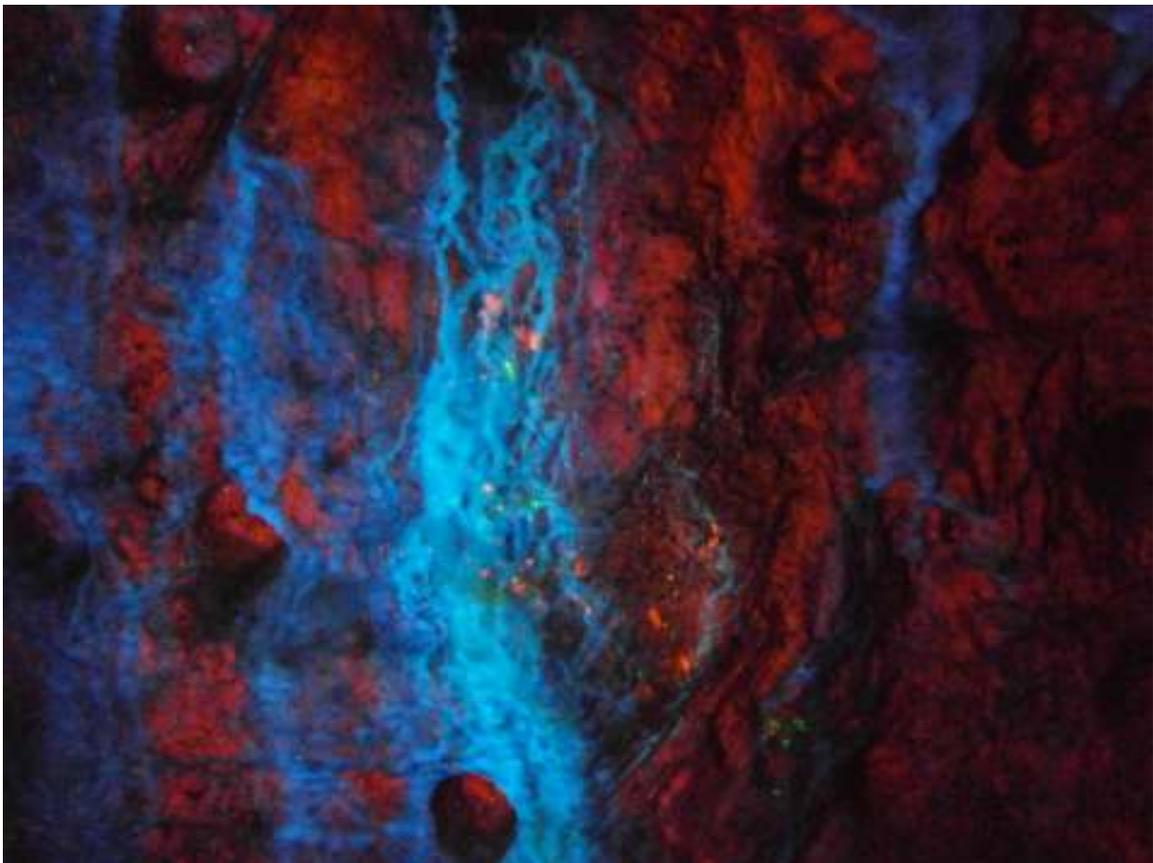
Veins and faults in the calcite wall



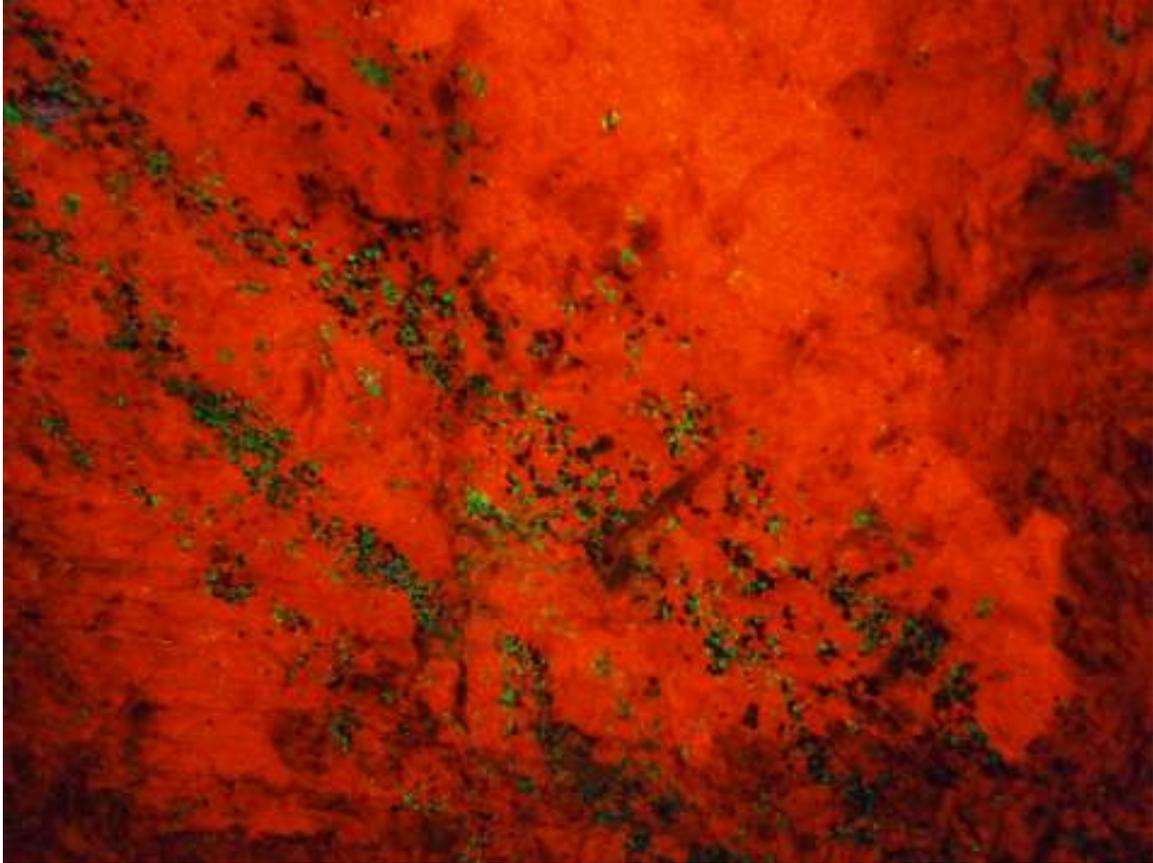
The Rainbow Room



Flowstone over fluorescent calcite



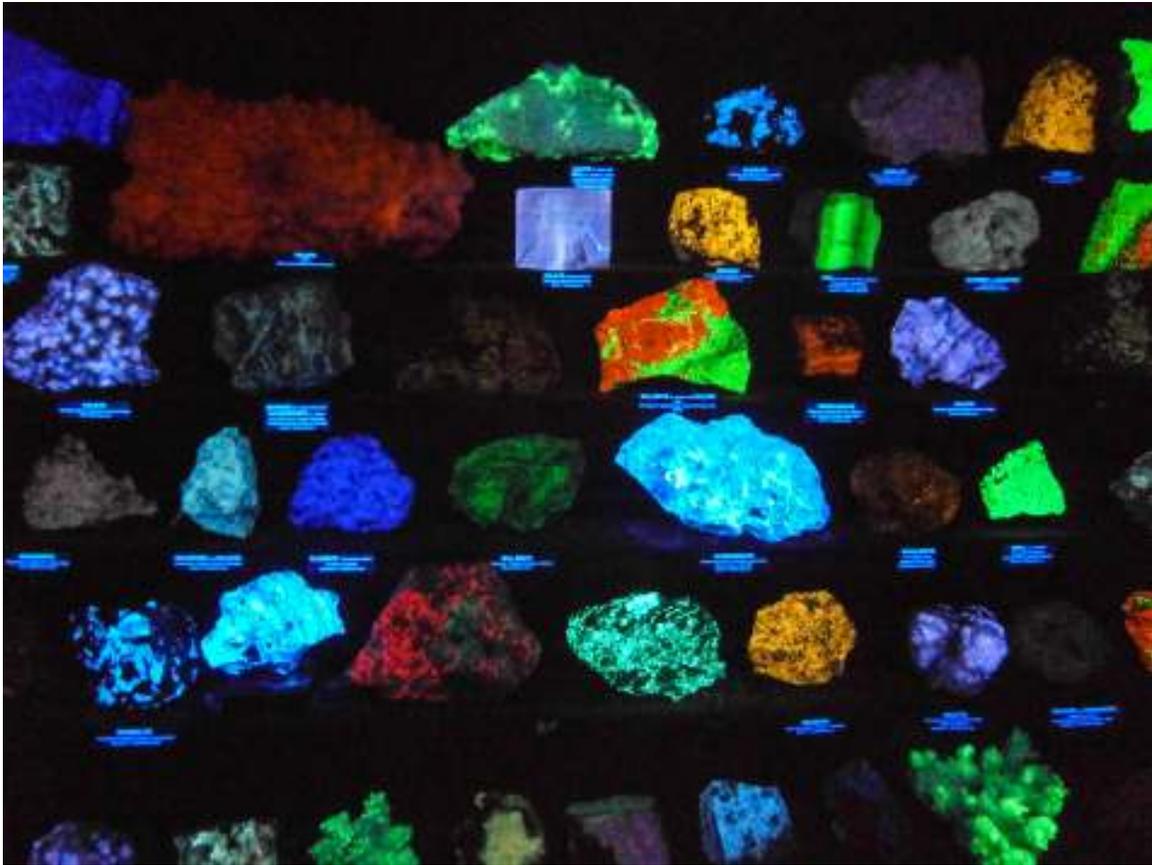
More incredible flowstone



Calcite and Willemite veins



One last flowstone shot



Some of the wonderful fluorescent minerals from the Warren Museum



Club members examining and discussing some early UV equipment

Sterling Hill Picnic BLACKOUT TOUR Photos – September 12, 2015

Photos by Dave Shapiro



To the disapproval of many (flash in dark) Dave captured this pic of beautiful glistening flowstone



Mark Boyer, Rich Keller, Jim Van Fleet, Mike Dunton, and Mike Machette all enjoying the chow



Laura Brecka, Mike Lyons, Len Greendyk, Tim + Mark Hollister, and Dan and wife brave the outdoors before eventual rainfall