



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 3

www.NoJMS.webs.com

Thursday, April 9, 2015

713th Meeting – Thursday, April 9, 2015

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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

After a phenomenal Clifton Show, it is time to focus our attentions on the very busy spring schedule we have lined up for our club! Our new Field Trip leader has some great field trips lined up for the club. One change this year will be a few un-announced trips. Due to the localities, and limitations on these "special" trips, they will not be announced in the newsletter, or on the website. They will only be announced at the monthly meetings, and will require sign-ups. These trips will be to some "important" localities, so get to the next meeting, or you could miss out. As far as our regular field trip schedule, we will be going on trips to Kurtz Quarry in Lancaster, Inversand Fossil pit in Mantua, National Limestone in Middleburg, and Big Brook this spring. Check the schedule on the website for details. The Edison Show will be held on April 10-12. Our club will again be setting up a table at this show to promote our club and our love of rocks. This is always a great event and a lot of fun!

PROGRAM

“Jaspers”

Speaker

John Sanfacon

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.

At the end of April, the Franklin Show and Super Dig will be held. Many of our club members will be setting up at Franklin, and will be volunteering at the show and at the Super Dig. Stop by the show and Sterling Hill for this great weekend!

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!

And finally, our Swap & Sell will again be held at Sterling Hill this year on May 16 & 17. This has turned into a really great event, and is a lot of fun for everyone! New this year, the folks at Sterling Hill have enclosed the pavilion, and added heat, to give full protection from the unpredictable weather at Sterling Hill.

SEND DUES TO:

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

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

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

I want to give a big THANK YOU to everyone who helped out at the Clifton Show. Without volunteers, the show would not be possible!

Jeff Wilson – President

NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER

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

North Jersey Outdoor Rock & Mineral Swap-N-Sell

May 16 & 17, 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.

The Club T-Shirts Are In!

The shirts will be available for sale at the April meeting for \$5 each for members! Sizes available are S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL, XXXXL.

COLLECTOR'S GUIDE TO HERKIMER DIAMONDS

Reviewed by Johan Maertens

Written by Michael R. Walter from Geologic Desires. 11 X 8 1/2", pictorial soft cover, 96 pages, with 210 color photos, 7 black and white pictures, and tables and figures, including crystal sketches of quartz crystals and maps showing several of the localities where Herkimer diamonds have been collected.

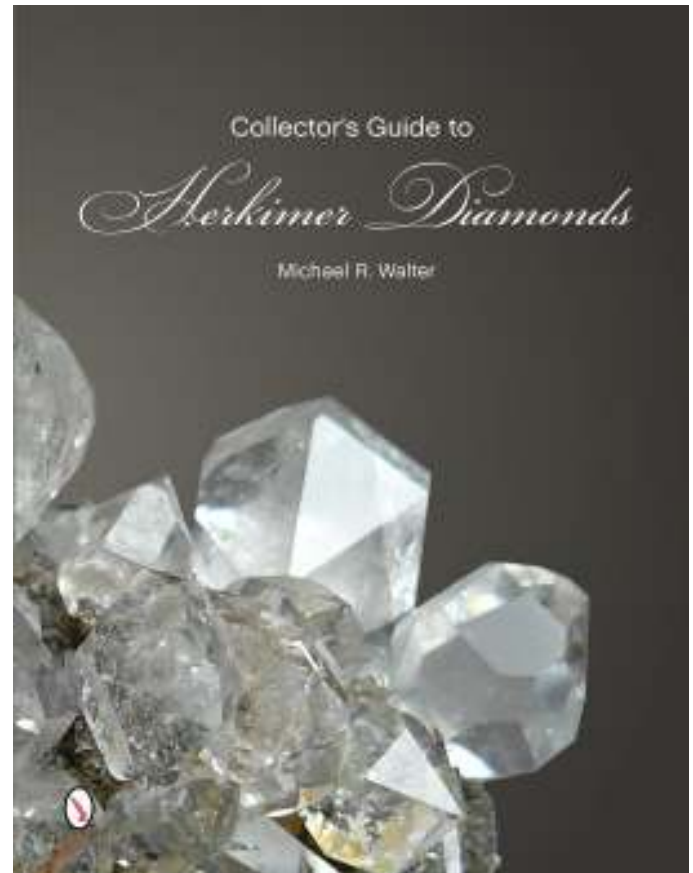
This is another of Michael Walters' valued books on regional collecting in New York: *Field Collecting Minerals in the Empire State: Stories of Modern Day North Country Miners and Field Collecting Minerals in the Empire States*.

This a practical field collecting guide for Herkimer Diamonds, special formed quartz crystals, collectable from several places in upstate New York State, USA. The guide includes essential topics of interest to anyone curious about this unique form quartz. The text is very readable for beginner to advanced hobby mineral collector. It avoids technical information for those who want to understand quartz in greater depth. Full color photos are spread throughout the book, along with first hand experiences collecting many of the specimens featured. Field photographs illustrate the informative text and enhance the reader's experience. The text includes the most recent scientific information regarding Herkimer Diamonds' geological and mineralogical history, where they can be collected, and descriptions of important historic locations. This book delves into locations in a way that scientific texts can not do. The author details specific methods used to effectively field collect Herkimer Diamond quartz crystals, with photos of mining methods and a discussion of collecting strategy. Current collecting mines are specified, the gear collectors need is detailed, specimen preparation, mineral collections, and associated minerals recounted. Beyond being an excellent book that is well worth the money, this is an essential guide for every collector of the widely known and desired quartz variety. The collecting methods extend to other localities adding to its value. The author writes from the heart and from 35 years of experience of collecting minerals in the area.

Published by Schiffer Publishing Company, Atglen, PA, 2014.

Order from book carriers such as Amazon or Barnes and Noble for \$19.99.

ISBN13: 9780764347108

**Yet Another World Class Collecting Site Disappears**

by Jeff Wilson

In mid-March, I received my Eastern Federation Newsletter, and was disappointed to read of the closing of another great collecting locality forever. But the reasons behind the closing upset me more than the closing itself.

The world-famous Fern Fossil site in St.Clair, Pennsylvania is officially closed and off limits to collecting. The owners have notified the Eastern Federation to notify all member clubs that anyone caught on the property collecting without authorization, will be prosecuted. The reason they gave is a thorn in the side of any mineral and fossil collector. "An overzealous collector entered the site with "heavy machinery" and was seen on several occasions using the machinery to tear apart the shale and collect large amounts of material." This collector was arrested and prosecuted for his actions. I had heard rumors of this activity from other St.Clair collectors the previous fall, and was worried that this might happen. This type of activity is the surest way to get sites closed, and to further cripple our hobby in the future.

These landowners, as have many others, "tolerated" collectors for years, only to have their kindness, and turn-a-blind-eye attitudes squashed by the irresponsible behaviors of those that they are allowing to collect on their properties. It is our responsibility as a hobby to make sure these type of activities do not happen, and that we all collect responsibly.

Another great site gone. Forever.

26th Annual Clifton/North Jersey Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show Report

by Jeff Wilson, Show Chairman

Our 2015 Clifton/North Jersey Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show was a tremendous success this year! We had rain on Saturday, but the sun peeked out on Sunday, and both days brought a bigger crowd than in the last several years. The parking lots were jammed full both days, and the gymnasium was packed throughout the show. Dealers reported great sales, and the club did very well at the front tables. We were blessed with many volunteers, which made this show go on seamlessly, and took a load off of my shoulders during this great weekend. I would like to take this moment to personally thank ALL the volunteers who turned out to help during the show.

Warren Gonzales again provided a superb Amethyst Geode for our Grand Prize Drawing, and Al Lombardi again donated the 2nd Grand Prize, a beautiful white quartz geode. Over 950 people filled out entries for the grand prizes. The 2nd Prize was won by Lori Grupusso of River Vale, and the Grand Prize was won by Mrs. Arlene Johnson, of Trenton. Looking through the entries, I observed patrons who drove to our show from as far away as Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and all over New York. This gives testament to the draw our show has and how eager folks are to attend our show each year.

Our attendance was up substantially this year! Many folks reported seeing our TV ads over the course on the weekend! Thank You to Channel 2 CBS, Channel 7 ABC, and News 12 for providing us free ads for our show! FiOS Channel 1 News also came to the show on Sunday afternoon, and did some news coverage of the show and also interviewed some dealers and myself.

Our attendance was as follows: Saturday: 690; Sunday: 563 Total: 1253 (+179 over 2014) In attendance were 4 Boy Scout Troops and 1 Girl Scout troop.

The results of our advertising was as follows: Post Cards redeemed: 97; Dealer Post Cards redeemed: 8; Printed Show Flyers redeemed: 6; OnLine Printed Coupon redeemed: 229; E-Coupon (I-phones): 15.

Our refreshment sales were good again this year.

We had 27 dealers in attendance this year, including a few new dealers, and everyone had a great show. But the highlight of the show was the tribute table to Greta Troy, which was located right at the entrance to the gym. Greta's family presented her creations for one last show, to give everyone one last chance to get some of her beautiful jewelry as a memento of her life and passion. There was also a framed memorial to the 4 club members and dealers who we lost this year.

Last year, most of our dealers donated money to have a new entry ramp built. Well, we had the ramp built, and it was perfect. Every dealer complimented the ramp and its design, and it worked flawlessly over the show weekend. It was definitely worth the \$125 investment. NoJMS then donated the ramp to the Diocese and the school for permanent use.

We gave away door prizes throughout the show, which were graciously donated by our dealers.

Overall, it was a fantastic weekend, and our club should be proud of this show, and the efforts of our volunteers. THANK YOU!!!

**May 16 & 17, 2015
Ogdensburg, NJ**

**North Jersey Outdoor Swap & Sale
Sterling Hill Mining Museum
From Rt. 23 and Rt. 15, Exit for Rt. 517 and
Follow signs to the Museum.
See website for more details!**

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

Sat. May 9, 2015 - Martin Limestone/Kurtz Quarry, Denver, Pa. (Lancaster County)

Fri., May 15, 2015 - Inversand Property, Mantua, NJ. World famous location for fossil collecting.

June 2015 - National Limestone Quarry, Middleburg, Pa.

June, 2015 - Big Brook for Shark's teeth and other fossils

August, 2015 - Big Brook 2 for Shark's teeth and other fossils

Autumn, 2015 - National Limestone Quarry, Mt. Pleasant Mills, Pa.

Montague, NJ for Quartz Crystals

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 712th NoJMS MEETING

The meeting was called to order by the President, Jeff Wilson, on Thursday, February 12, 2015.

Jeff Wilson reviewed some of the anticipated scheduled events. The listing of dealers for the Clifton/North Jersey Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show is filled. There will not be a monthly club meeting in March but all members are encouraged to participate at the show instead.

Club t-shirts will be available at the April meeting. They will display the new logo as well as celebrate 70 years of the club's existence.

For three days, April 10-12, 2015, the club has been granted a table at the NY-NJ Gem Show, in Edison, NJ. Members are encouraged to volunteer their time representing the club and they will be rewarded with the opportunity to see the myriad of assorted exhibits.

The Sterling Hill Mining Museum will be even more accommodating for the NoJMS Spring Swap and Sale, because of the improvements to the premises. The pavilion has been enclosed which is an enhancement for many of the vendors.

Mineral Madness took place which always affords delight when the lucky chosen are selected.

Dr. Steve Okulewicz, a professor at Hofstra University, gave a presentation on "The Geology of Yellowstone Park - Our First National Park." Yellowstone is located in three states with the major portion in Wyoming and lesser expansion in Idaho and Montana. So many features could captivate the spectrum of new initiates to seasoned geologists. Terms such as geysers, fumaroles, calderas, supervolcanos, etc. were delineated with visual accompaniments. How fortunate to have such a personable presenter with a wealth of knowledge and a fascinating delivery.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Brecka, Secretary

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 10, 11, 12, 2015 - Edison, NJ - The Annual NY-NJ Metro Show

<http://www.ny-nj-gemshow.com/index.php>

April 11 & 12, 2015 - Johnson City (Binghamton), NY - Annual Southern Tier Mineral Show, Johnson City Senior Center

April 10, 11, 12, 2015 - Iowa City, Iowa - 37th Annual National Fossil Exposition, sponsored by the Mid-America Paleontological Society at the Sharpless Center, 5049 Herbert Hoover Highway, Iowa City, IA

April 18 & 19, 2015 - Lancaster, Pa. - Annual Gem & Mineral Show and Sale

April 25 & 26, 2015 - Franklin, NJ - NJESA Annual show & swap, Franklin School

April 25, 2015 - Ogdensburg, NJ - Annual Sterling Hill Super Dig!

April 25 & 26, 2015 - Ogdensburg, NJ - Annual Sterling Hill Garage Sale

May 2 & 3, 2015 - Pittston (Scranton Area), Pa. - Annual Gem & Mineral Show at St. Joseph Obilates, 1880 Rt. 315, Pittston, Pa.

May 16 & 17, 2015 - Leesport, Pa. - Annual Berks County Mineral Society Show

May 16 & 17, 2015 – Ogdensburg, NJ – NoJMS Spring Swap & Sale at Sterling Hill Mining Museum

June 6, 2015 - Macungie, Pa. - Annual Spring Mineralfest at Macungie Memorial Park

June 6 & 7, 2015 - Monroe, NY - Annual Orange County Gem & Mineral Show, Museum Village, Monroe, NY. Sponsored by the Orange County, NY Mineral Society

June 6 & 7, 2015 - Canandigua, (near Rochester) NY - GEMFEST sponsored by the Wayne County Gem & Mineral Society, Canandigua Civic Center, 250 Bloomfield Rd. Canandigua, NY

July 18 & 19, 2015 - Herkimer, NY - Herkimer Diamond Festival (Details in Jeff's article above)

<http://www.herkimergemshow.com>



September 26 & 27, 2015 - Franklin, NJ - Annual Autumn Show & Swap, Franklin School

September 26 & 27, 2015 - Ogdensburg, NJ - Annual Sterling Hill Garage Sale

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

December 4,5,&6, 2015 - Edison, NJ - **NEW SHOW!** The WINTER NY/NJ Metro Show, at the NJ Exposition Center, Edison, NJ

2016 SHOWS/EVENTS

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.

Supplemental (E-Newsletter Only)





