



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 70, Issue 1

www.NoJMS.webs.com

Thursday, February 13, 2014

701st Meeting – Thursday, February 13, 2014

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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

A new year has come and I fully expect it to be another exciting and eventful year for our society. We are in the midst of a dreary winter, but spring is in sight. We have the Clifton show coming up which is always an exciting “first show” of the season to look forward to.

PROGRAM

“TBD”

Speaker

N/A

Mineral Madness

The 2013 board members were re-elected for 2014. It's not just the board members who volunteer but everyone who mans the tables at the shows, helps with setup and cleanup at the meetings, brings in rocks as giveaways to younger and less experienced collectors, and also those who spread the good work about the club and promote us positively to others. Hopefully we all recognize the value of our time and appreciate those who give their time in support of our mineral society. Congratulations to the board members, and thank you to all of those who have volunteered their time last year.

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.

Inclement Weather: If there is inclement weather on the day of a meeting please check the website or call a board member before leaving for the meeting. We will also try to send out an email to the newsletter mailing list in case of a cancelled meeting. Please do not travel in dangerous conditions. Safety First!

FOR INFORMATION

Bryan Davis 862-200-7625 or blimer4evr@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!

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Due to uncontrollable circumstances, we wanted to apologize for not sending out a newsletter in January. This issue is jam packed with a few extra features. We hope you enjoy!

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 2013

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

**March 8 & 9, 2014
Clifton, NJ**

**25th Annual Clifton/North Jersey Gem &
Mineral Show
775 Valley Rd. (Just off Rt.3/46) Clifton, NJ
See website for more details!**

VICE-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As the doldrums of winter set in, the time of year is upon us to begin thinking about what we, as club members, can do for our club in the upcoming year! Our primary source of income each year is our annual Clifton Show. This year is our 25th annual show! It is scheduled for March 8 & 9, 2014. Show hours are from 10-5. Volunteers are needed to help out all throughout the show weekend, including the setup day on the Friday before the show starts. So, what can you do to help?

On the Friday before the show, we need helpers beginning at 2pm, to assist bringing in tables, setting up booths, setting up the entryway, and helping dealers bring their merchandise into the building. Setup runs from 2-9 on Friday.

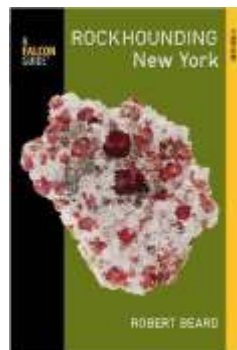
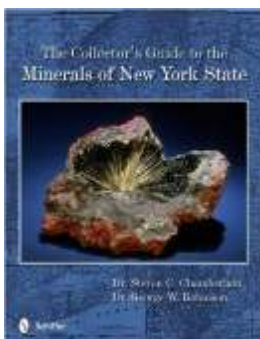
On Sat. and Sun., we need volunteers to walk the show for security, help with food and running errands, and of course, we need a crew at the front tables, collecting admissions, selling refreshments, and answering questions from our patrons. We also need members to be available if dealers need to take a break, use the restrooms, etc. Any member who will be volunteering during the show, please wear your club t-shirt so you can be identified as a member!

On Sunday evening, help is also needed for take-down. The show closes at 5pm, but take-down runs until 8:30. Help is needed to assist dealers to remove merchandise from the building and fold down tables.

So, as you see, we need YOU!!! If you have any questions or would like to volunteer for certain hours, please see Jeff, your show chairman.

Thanks, and see you at the show!!!

Jeff Wilson



Some New Reading Material for Rockhounds in 2014

by Jeff Wilson

This year, two new and much needed books are hitting the bookshelves. The subject of mineral collecting in the state of New York has been a much overlooked subject over the last half century. Precious little has been written about NY mineralogy over these years, and with several new and exciting finds coming out of the Empire State recently, (Amity, Chittenango Falls, Yosts, and Fort Montgomery) the time has definitely come for some new publications to be written covering our neighbor to the north!

The first book was published in late 2013, called "The Collector's Guide to the Minerals of New York State" by Dr. Steven Chamberlain, and Dr. George Robinson. It has 96 pages and retails for \$16. Our club member, Herschel Friedman, read this book and wrote a full review of its contents on his mineral website, www.minerals.net. This book is currently available on Amazon.com, and in bookstores, and is chock full of collecting locations, mineralogy data, and information about the geology of New York.

The second book, "Rockhounding New York" by Robert Beard, will be the sister publication to the wildly successful "Rockhounding Pennsylvania and New Jersey" that was published last year. This book is due to be released in February and will be sold on Amazon.com and in Barnes and Noble. This book will retail for \$15 and will have 288 pages loaded with lots of popular collecting sites, commercial sites, and little-known areas for fossils and minerals, and full descriptions including GPS data. The author will use the same format as he did in the PA/NJ book. I refer to the PA,NJ book regularly, and find the information to be accurate, so I expect nothing less from this book.

I am very happy to see this information finally updated and published. New York is a mineral and fossil collector's prize, and to see this state's information brought up to date will be a plus for all us.

Mineral Humor

Ground Score!

The best specimen of the field trip will always be found just laying in the dirt, by a 10 year-old, who will then ask the hardest working collector "Hey Mister - Is this rock any good?"

Introducing minID

By Bryan Davis

From mindat.com:

“Imagine that every mineral specimen, those in public and private collections, those that you see online offered for sale, and even those that you own, has a unique reference number that allowed you to look up details about the specimen such as information from past owners, old labels, and more. This is no dream, this is what minID does.”

The creators of mindat.com have recently announced their newest venture, minID. In its simplest form, it's a system to give an identification number to every mineral specimen, but in fact it is a momentous undertaking. They have started with assigning each specimen catalogued in a Mindat photo with a number. They are also allowing mineral dealers and developers access to create minID's for specimens they are selling or cataloguing.

It's an intriguing concept. If you buy a mineral from a dealer that has a minID number, you can type that number into minID and theoretically get all of the information previously known about the specimen. If you buy a mineral specimen and it has no label, just a minID number stuck to it, you would be able to go online and find any information the previous owners input about the specimen, and possibly photos of the old labels. This would be a great tool to prevent theft of mineral specimens.

The system is starting out with a 6 digit combination of numbers and letters in the format LEC-F74. Mindat already offers users the option of creating a mineral catalog for their collection on the website, and minID creates a nice add-on allowing the specimen information to populate from just a minID number. So if you went to a dealer and bought a specimen with a minID, all you would have to do to add it to your collection catalogue is enter the minID number in your collection catalog. Any other information previously filled out by the dealer will fill in automatically. The mineral cataloging tool on mindat is already a nice feature; however, I still prefer my own Microsoft Excel catalogue because I can modify the categories and customize my sort functions. But now I wonder if I should continue with my old numbering system, or take the extra time to use the new minID's for my numbering system. I think I will wait until they work out some of the bugs before making the switch.

To start getting your own minID's or learn more about the system, visit <http://www.mindat.org>

PROSPECTORS!!

by Jeff Wilson



Last year, the creative minds at The Weather Channel came up with the idea of documenting the true stories of mineral collectors in Colorado, dealing with adverse weather conditions, as well as documenting every aspect of just what mineral collecting is all about, including collecting, preparing, displaying, and selling of specimens.

I must say, I'm hooked!!! The show, now in its second season, airs Sunday evenings as well as other times throughout the week, on The Weather Channel. The show revolves around several different mineral collectors, and the methods they use to obtain highly desired gemstones in the Colorado Rockies. One family uses heavy machinery to extract amazonite and smoky quartz from their claim in Lake George. The rest of the collectors use muscle and steel to extract their gemstones. The action is focused on Mount Antero, which is world renowned for smoky quartz, golden topaz, and world class gem quality aquamarine. The collectors rely on their finds as their income. Their collecting success can mean the difference between paying their bills or not.

The show also touches upon the technicalities in "staking out a claim", which is still allowed in a handful of western states. An 1870's mining law, which is still in effect, allows a collector, once they find proof of mineral wealth on a certain parcel of government owned land, to mark out an area, and "claim" the land for mining, for just the payment of a nominal processing fee. The claim owners deal with claim jumpers, landslides, horrible weather conditions, and lack of oxygen on the mountain. The sites where they collect are often well over 14,000 feet.

They also touch upon the Denver Mineral Show, and how the collectors display and sell their finds at the show, and they also have a series of experts that give appraisals of the finds along the way.

I watch the show religiously, and I can honestly say that's a very accurate portrayal of what true mineral

collecting is all about. If you haven't seen it, check your local listings, and watch!!!

MINUTES OF THE 698th NoJMS MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Ron Schulz, the Second Vice President, due to the absence of Bryan Davis, the President, on November 14, 2013.

Two motions were approved. The first, re-elected the current board members. The second allowed that expenses incurred by board members while conducting club business could be reimbursed.

Amid the reviewing of recent field trips and the anticipation of future club events, it was suggested that a social outing in the winter months be scheduled. An activity during the winter doldrums, when collecting is sporadic would contribute to the club's continued momentum.

Every Mineral Madness seems to incorporate uniqueness such as fluorescence or a surprise special specimen for the last person drawn. This time those fortunate enough to be selected could pick not just once, but twice.

Lou D'Alonzo gave a presentation on "Micro Mounting." He explained the benefits of having a prized collection that does not need a lot of space, could be inexpensive and will keep forever. Few items are required such as forceps, glue, balsa sticks, markers, boxes and the biggest investment, a microscope. We appreciate that Lou was willing to share his wealth of knowledge accumulated from many years of pursuit.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Brecka, Secretary

MINUTES OF THE 700th NoJMS MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Bryan Davis, the President on Thursday, January 10, 2014. For many this was the first opportunity to go outside, after enduring the isolation imposed by a spell of punishing, bitter cold temperatures.

The membership was encouraged to pay dues, actively volunteer in all aspects of the club and assist with finding speakers for the meetings.

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.

Mineral Madness was included on the agenda. This is always a light, spirited diversion.

Thank you to the members who brought in microscopes and specimens from their micro collections. The magnification reveals unexpected treasures. This perspective brings a unique dimension to add to rock enthusiast's enjoyment.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Brecka, Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Rutgers Geology Museum Open House
Saturday, January 25, 2014
8:30am to 5:00pm

Feb. 15 & 16, 2014 - Albany, NY - Annual Mineral Show & Sale at the NY State Museum

Sat. & Sun. March 8 & 9 - 25th Annual Clifton/North Jersey Gem & Mineral Show
The Pope John II Center
775 Valley Rd. (Just off Rt.3/46)
Clifton, NJ
10am-5pm Both days.

- **25 DEALERS DISPLAYING INCREDIBLE ARRAYS OF MINERALS, FOSSILS, GEMSTONES, JEWELRY, LAPIDARY ROUGH, AND ROCKHOONDING SUPPLIES.**
- **ONE OF THE TOP GEM, MINERAL AND FOSSIL SHOWS IN THE NORTHEAST!!**

March 22 & 23, 2014 - Sayre, Pa. - Annual Che-Hanna Gem & Mineral Show, at the Sayre Firehouse

March 29 & 30, 2014 - Plymouth Meeting, Pa. - The Annual Philadelphia Gem & Mineral Show

April 11, 12, 13, 2014 - Edison, NJ - The Annual NY-NJ Metro Show
<http://www.ny-nj-gemshow.com/index.php>

April 26 & 27, 2014 - Franklin, NJ - Annual Spring Franklin Show & Sterling Hill Garage Sale

May 3 & 4, 2014 - Pittston, Pa. - The Annual Scranton Area Gem & Mineral Show at St. Joseph's 1880 Rt.315, Pittston, PA.

May 31 & June 1, 2014 - Riverdale, NJ - Annual Spring Outdoor Gem & Mineral Show & Swap, 211 Hamburg Tpk. Riverdale, NJ

June 7, 2014 - Macungie, Pa. - Annual Spring Mineralfest

June 7 & 8, 2014 - Monroe, NY - Annual Orange County Gem & Mineral Show, Museum Village, Monroe, NY

October 4, 2014 - Macungie, Pa. - Annual Fall Mineralfest

October 18 & 19, 2014 - Riverdale, NJ - Annual Fall Outdoor Gem & Mineral Show & Swap, 211 Hamburg Tpk. Riverdale, NJ

More Mineral Humor

Mineral Show Special:

Buy one specimen for the price of two, and get the second one absolutely FREE!!!

The Mineral Show Rule:

-Your dream specimen, the one you have always wanted to finally complete your display, will always be found at the table immediately adjacent to the one where you just spent your last dollar.

-When you find someone to loan you some cash, that specimen will have inexplicably vanished.

Law of Selective Gravitation:

"A dropped tool will always land in the vug where it will do the most damage to the best specimen"

"A dropped specimen will always land in the deepest, most unreachable crevice between boulders."

Supplemental (E-Newsletter Only)

MICRO CORNER



ARAGONITE, Pavone mine, Montecastelli
ITALY

ARAGONITE, Pavone mine, Montecastelli, ITALY



BARITE, Machow mine, Tarnobrzeg, POLAND 1 mm

BARITE, Machow mine, Tarnobrzeg, POLAND