



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 73, Issue 3

www.NoJMS.webs.com

Thursday, March 9, 2017

733rd Meeting – Thursday, March 9, 2017

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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

Hello everyone. Spring is just a few weeks away. That can only mean one thing. It's show and collecting season!

PROGRAM

“Ammonites of the Himalayas”

Speaker
Derek Yoost

I'm going to keep this message short since February's meeting was cancelled.

Please keep your dues up to date and we will see you at the March meeting.

Mineral Madness

Refreshments will be served.

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.

Happy collecting,
Ron Schulz – President

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!

SEND DUES TO:

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

Individual members: \$15.00
Married couples: \$20.00
Family: \$30.00

OFFICERS FOR 2017

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

April 1 & 2, 2017
Midland Park High School
Midland Park, NJ

28th Annual North Jersey Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show

250 Prospect St. (Just off Rt.208 & five miles from I-287) Midland Park, NJ
Sat.: 10am-6pm; Sun.: 10am-4pm
See website for more details!
Our 2nd year at this great location!

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.

Blast from the Past!!

By Jeff Wilson

Originally published in The Paterson Evening News, May 21, 1968.

“11-year-old's Minerals on Exhibit At Museum”

Paterson - Gregory Zack is only 11 years old, but he is already a double winner. Gregory received a prize at the Youth Week Contest, conducted by the Paterson Museum, and now his exhibit of minerals has opened at the same institution.

The boy's minerals are on display in a special case in Mineral Hall, where qualified boys and girls of the area take turns exhibiting their rocks, minerals, and fossils.

Gregory is a 6th grader at School 15. He began visiting the museum last April. In his winning essay, Gregory said that when he first visited the museum, he knew very little about minerals, but the pretty colors and crystal shapes interested him. After his visit, he got busy with hunting down specimens, even inspiring his family to go on field trips to different locations to collect on weekends, and during summer break.

The family joined the Paterson Geological Club, located at the Museum, and attended additional trips, programs and rock swaps, where he acquired additional material. Gregory has included in his display beautiful minerals from Paterson which he collected himself and traded with other collectors. There are also minerals that he collected from Franklin. He also received several nice mineral specimens from far away, as birthday gifts from his parents and fellow club members. These are also on display.

The boy has become an expert in identifying minerals and won the first prize in a contest on Mineral Identification conducted by the Geological Club. Much of his knowledge has been acquired by reading and studying books on Rocks and Minerals, many given to him by his science teacher. The young man is now considering geology as a profession.

--- The Paterson Evening News, May 21, 1968

KIDS CORNER!

by Jeff Wilson

I came across a wonderful website the other day that is geared for kids, just starting their own mineral collections. It gives great information about minerals, how to collect them, label them, clean them, and display

them. It has helpful hints about our hobby and activities for kids.

The website even has a template for making your own mineral labels! (great for kids and adults!)

With your parents OK, visit this really cool website and learn all about mineral and rock collecting!

The website address is: <www.kidsloverocks.com> and is kid-friendly!

“Storv of a Stone : Ammonites from the Roof of the World”

By Derek Yoost

If you were to hike up to the “Roof of the World”, the highest point on our planet, Mount Everest and the rest of the Himalayan mountain range and pick up a rock, you would find that it was made out of bedded ocean sediments with strange shapes inside. It is the ever powerful forces from deep within our restless planet that are responsible for this process. Come and find out how this process works anyhow these strange shapes from the ocean depths are now found on top of the highest mountain range.

Midland Park Show Update

by Jeff Wilson

I am very excited for our upcoming show on April 1 & 2, in Midland Park. Plans are rolling along smoothly. There are some things that you, as a club member, can do to help. Since I have not been able to attend the winter meetings to "Rally the troops", I hope that everyone can give of their time during the show weekend to support your club and make this show a success. Here's what you can do:

We need help Friday March 31, in the afternoon/evening setting up tables and assisting dealers during setup. Setup begins at 4pm and will continue until 9:00. We need help at the front table during the duration of the show. Spend an hour, or a whole day. It's fun and a great help to the club.

Lastly, we need help Sunday between 4pm and 8pm for takedown and cleanup. We will be folding up tables, cleaning and assisting dealers.

Also, as I mentioned last month, we need small, pretty, sparkly, colorful specimens to use as kid's giveaways, not only for the Midland Park Show, but also for the Edison show, the following weekend. If you have any

small specimens you would like to donate to this cause, please bring them to the show, and you can leave them at the front table.

Thank You, club members, and let's have a GREAT show!!

Interested in collecting in New York State?

Fred Haynes is a member of the Wayne County Gem & Mineral Society in Central New York. He has amassed a large amount of information from years of collecting around New York State. He has set up a web page documenting all of these amazing trips, including site photos and vivid descriptions of the site and collecting. There are literally hundreds of field trip reports to view over many years. This is an excellent website and is worth the read.

<http://www.fredmhaynes.com>

The Travertine of Ilion Gorge, Ilion, NY

by Jeff Wilson

Ilion, NY (ilion) is a small town in Central New York, 7 miles from Herkimer, that contains an interesting formation that is unique to this spot, and is unusual in mineral collecting circles. The formation lies in Ilion Gorge, a natural ravine, a few miles south of the village just off of Rt. 51.

Several years ago, Herkimer County decided that the annual flooding events along County Rt. 16 was not worth the cost and effort of keeping the road open through the gorge, and a one mile stretch of the road was permanently closed. Since then, the remnants of the road have slowly washed out, and the last remnants of the original road are now just a paved footpath through the woods. In some places, there is nothing left at all, the brook claiming every last chunk of asphalt.

About halfway along this section of road are a series of natural springs exiting the shale that is exposed in the gully. These springs are partially filled and coated in a bright orange to yellow to brown calcite travertine. Quite often, this travertine contains nice botryoidal crystals. This material has become a favorite of local collectors, but is relatively unknown outside of Central New York. Local Club field trip reports say this location never disappoints. In addition to the highly desired rounded crystals, there is also highly banded colorful flowstone that takes an attractive polish, and can also be

successfully slabbed. Rarely one can also find stalactites of this attractive material as well.

A very unique feature of this area is the formation of moss due to the high humidity and constant water flow. Over the years, some of the moss has become calcified due to being constantly exposed to the water coming from the mineral rich springs. This delicate material is a neat addition to any collection, and shows the unique and interesting dynamic interplay between biology and geology.

At the gorge, the travertine is forming because the ridges above the gorge are capped with limestone. As acid rain dissolves the limestone, the calcium carbonate rich water percolates through fractures in the shale. As the gorge cuts through the underlying shale, fractures in the shale create springs that contain the calcite travertine.

This is an interesting locality for collecting, and since it is considered a public road, there are no restrictions on access, or collecting.

Attached are 2 photos, one showing the bright orange calcite travertine, the second showing the calcified moss.

References: Fred M. Haynes, S. Chamberlain, and "Travertine from Ilion Gorge" Nov. 2004 Rock & Gem Magazine



FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE FOR 2017

March 19, 2017 – New Street Quarries, West Paterson, NJ

March 25, 2017 – C.K. Williams Quarry – Easton, PA

April 22, 2017 – Otisville, NY – Washington Lead Mines Trip

June 24, 2017 - Ramenessen Creek/Big Brook, Holmdel/Colt's Neck, NJ

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

Check our website often for trip updates!

MINUTES OF THE 731st NoJMS MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Ron Schulz, the President, on Thursday, January 12, 2017.

There was the transition of the club's presidency from Jeff Wilson to Ron Schulz, since it was the start of the new year. Although the leadership role was relinquished by one and assumed by the next, it was apparent that there will be a continuity of commitment, devotion and enthusiasm.

The board members that were present identified their titles and gave a brief synopsis of their responsibilities.

A sketchy overview of anticipated field trips, shows and events was presented.

There was the plea to avoid delinquency in satisfying the annual membership dues.

Mineral Madness, now an expected ritual at every meeting, was included in the evening's agenda.

The fleeting pace of the meeting precluded an allotment of time for a speaker. We will have the pleasure of hearing Derek Yost's presentation at the next meeting.

The club can look forward to a new year brimming with activities and camaraderie.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Brecka, Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 25 & 26, 2017 – Plymouth Meeting, PA – 2017 Mineral Treasures & Fossil Fair
Sat: 10am to 5pm; Sun: 10am to 4pm
Lulu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA., (PA Turnpike, exit 333; or I-476, exit 20) Free Parking.
Adults: \$5.00. Children under 12: \$1.00; Uniformed scouts and troop leaders free.

March 25 & 26, 2017 - Wysox, Pa. - Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club Annual Show. NEW LOCATION - Wysox Fire Dept Social Hall, 111 Lake Street, Wysox, Pa. (20 miles Southwest of Binghamton, 25 miles Northwest of Scranton.)

April 1 & 2, 2017 – Midland Park, NJ – 28th Annual North Jersey Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show

April 7, 8, 9, 2017 - Edison, NJ - The Annual NY-NJ Mineral, Fossil, Gem & Jewelry Show
<http://www.ny-nj-gemshow.com/index.php>

April 29 & 30, 2017 - Annual NJESA Franklin Gem & Mineral Show, Franklin School, 50 Washington Ave. and Buckwheat Road, Franklin. Sat. 8-5, Sun. 9-5.
Dealer contact: Russell Brarens (908)421-1045

April 29 & 30, 2017 -Ogdensburg, NJ - Sterling Hill Garage Sale, Sterling Hill Mining Museum, 30 Plant Street, Ogdensburg, NJ

April 29, 2017 - Annual Super Dig!!! Sponsored by the Delaware Valley Earth Sciences Society and the Franklin Mineral Museum - NEW LOCATION - Franklin Mineral Museum, 32 Evans St.. Franklin, NJ. Visit www.superdig.com for more information and updates!

May 6 & 7, 2017 - Pittston, Pa. - 14th Annual Treasures of the Earth Gem & Mineral Show, St Joseph's Rt. 315 South, Pittston, PA. (Scranton Area)

May 6 & 7, 2017 - Topsfield, Mass. - Annual North Shore Gem & Mineral Show

May 13 & 14, 2017 - Hamilton, NJ - Annual Cape Atlantic Rockhounds Gem & Mineral Show

May 20 & 21, 2017 – Ogdensburg, NJ – 6th Annual North Jersey Spring Swap-n-Sell at Sterling Hill Mining Museum, 30 Plant St. Ogdensburg

June 3, 2017 - Spring Mineralfest - Macungie, Pennsylvania - 68th semi-annual Mineralfest

June 3 & 4, 2017 - Monroe, NY - Annual Orange County Gem & Mineral Show, Museum Village, off Rt. 17, Monroe, NY

June 3 & 4, 2017 - Canandigua, NY - Annual Wayne County Gem Fest - Canandigua Civic Center

June 10, 2017 - Kent, Ct. - Annual Outdoor Gem & Mineral Show at the Conn. Museum of Mining and Mineral Sciences, Rt.7, Kent, Ct. FREE Admission

June 24 & 25, 2017 - Gilsum, NH - Annual Gilsum Rock Swap & Show

July 22 & 23, 2017 - Frankfort, NY - NEW LOCATION!! - 3rd Annual Herkimer Diamond Festival and Gem Show, at the Herkimer County Fairgrounds, 135 Cemetery St., Frankfort, NY (Approx. 7 miles from Herkimer, on Rt. NY 5S, 1 mile West of Ilion.)

August 11-13, 2017 - W. Springfield, Mass. - Annual East Coast Gem & Mineral Show

August 26 & 27, 2017 - Canton, NY - Annual St. Lawrence County Gem & Mineral Show, Lincoln St. Park Pavillion

Sept. 16 & 17, 2017 - Poughkeepsie, NY - Annual Mid-Hudson Gem & Mineral Show, Gold's Gym, 258 Titusville Road, Poughkeepsie

Sept. 24 & 25, 2017 - Franklin, NJ - Annual Fall Show, Franklin School

Sept. 24 & 25, 2017 - Ogdensburg, NJ - Sterling Hill Annual Garage Sale

Sept. 30 & Oct. 1, 2017 - Cobleskill, NY - 2nd Annual Howe Caverns Gem & Mineral Show & Sale. At the Cave House Museum of Mining and Geology, Doc Rielly Park, Nippen Road/Dug Road, Howe's Cave, NY.

October 7, 2017 - Macungie, Pa. - 68th Annual Fall Mineralfest

NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER

Please fill out the enclosed membership application from the back of the newsletter and mail it with a check or bring to the next club meeting. We need you to please pay your dues via check as we have a lot of fun activities planned for this year. Please note the change in dues. Thank you.

CLASSIFIEDS

Mel Pollinger, long-time member of NoJMS and quartz enthusiast, has decided to part from his mineral collection starting in January 2017. He will be selling the pieces individually, rather than as a complete collection. For more information, please contact Mel at

(201) 791-9826 or pollingmel@optonline.net (Preferred contact method)

Supplemental (E-Newsletter Only)

End-of-Year Raffle Prize Photos

Photos by Ron Schulz



First Prize - Rose Quartz from Brazil polished to a point



Second Prize - Polished agate slab from Brazil

The North Jersey Mineralogical Society
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name of Applicant _____

Address _____

Telephone Contact _____

E-Mail _____

Additional Family Members _____

Today's Date ____/____/____

Renewal _____ New Membership _____

Individual Membership \$15 _____ Couple \$20 _____

Family Membership \$30 (2 Adults, up to 3 kids) _____

If you would like to join The North Jersey Mineralogical Society, Please fill out this form, enclose form and check for dues, and mail to:

Arlene Castleman, Treasurer 126 US Route 46 East - 40A Lodi, NJ 07644-3630

NoJMS is a 501(c)3 Non Profit Educational Organization. Your dues pay for membership in the Eastern Federation, and pays for your insurance which allows us to attend field trips, shows, and events. Membership entitles you to our club newsletter, club patch, membership card, and participation in club field trips, shows, events, and parties.