



# 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 8

www.NoJMS.webs.com

Thursday, November 12, 2015

718<sup>th</sup> Meeting – Thursday, November 12, 2015

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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

As we are getting closer to the Holiday Season, our minds and schedules will transition more to friends and family, winter preparations, and less on our hobbies. Our final fall field trip is being planned now, and then the Holiday Party. After that, the dreaded winter months come along, and other than our club meetings, we do very little collecting and other activities. This has played on our minds for years, and now, with the help of the folks at Sterling Hill, we have devised yet another club activity, to keep our mineral blood flowing, even in the winter!

## PROGRAM

“TBD”

### Speaker

Derek Yoost

## 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.

The creative minds of your board members have arranged to use the now heated pavillionat Sterling Hill, to have a "Members Only Winter Rock Swap", where rockhounds from ANY local clubs can hang out for a day, buy, sell, or trade rocks, chat, eat some food from on the grill, and just have fun with friends, all while the cold of winter chills the mine outside! Interest in this kind of thing has been very positive, and I think it will turn out to be a fun event. We will post more information as the date gets closer. Yet another fun NoJMS event to look forward to!

## 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!

Our field trip to National Limestone was another huge hit. I can't thank our hosts enough for their hospitality. Eric Stahl, again opened his quarries to us to explore and collect from, and Jim Van Fleet once again opened his home to us as well as preparing another SUPERB Bar-B-Que. It is very heart warming that these kind folks are so gracious to us. THANK YOU Jim and Eric!

Reminder- This meeting will be your last chance to get your Meteorite Drawing tickets! The drawing will be at our Holiday Party. Tickets are \$5 each.

Thanks, and see you at the November meeting!

Jeff Wilson – President

### 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 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  
Bob Allen  
Trustees Bryan Davis  
Jess Jacobson

**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!) I have included a copy of these labels in this newsletter!

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

The website address is: <[www.kidsloverocks.com](http://www.kidsloverocks.com)> and is kid-friendly!

**The World of Minerology Loses a Legend**

by Jeff Wilson

Rock Henry Currier  
1940-2015

On September 25, 2015, the world of Minerology lost a true legend. Rock Currier (Yes, Rock was his birth name. Named similar to Rock Hudson) passed away at his home in California. Some of you may not know Rock, but for those who did know him, are aware of his great contributions to the hobby, in his documentation of many rare and unknown species around the world, to his write ups of localities all over the globe. He was the owner of a large importing company in California, Jewel Tunnel Imports, which is arguably the largest wholesaler of mineral-related items in the United States. He was an avid collector, and had a knowledge of minerals and localities without equal among his peers.

Rock was instrumental in opening up the world market to the incredible zeolites of India during the 1970's. Rock was a fixture at the Springfield Show, where I first met him. His minerals were incredible. The specimens of your dreams. He wrote for Rocks & Minerals Magazine, The Mineralogical Record, and Mineral News. He was the former director of the Hudson Institute of Mineralogy. But today's collectors will best know Rock as a managing partner, and major contributor of MinDat. Rock made many, many contributions to MinDat in the years since its formation, and communicated with anyone who asked, and gave easy to understand and sometimes humorous information to get his point across. He firmly believed in the mission of educating and enlightening the world about his beloved hobby of

Mineralogy and Mineral Collecting. His humor and kindness stand out in the hobby. The few times I communicated with him, he was always cordial and open to my willingness to learn more. He will be missed. The attached photo is of Rock collecting in an African desert, doing what he did best.

**National Limestone Quarries Field Trip Report**

by Jeff Wilson

It was another beautiful fall Saturday on October 17th, and 29 members of NoJMS and a couple guests from NJ Friends of Mineralogy, (setting the all time record for a field trip at National Limestone) drove 3 hours to attend our annual field trip to central Pennsylvania, to visit National Limestone Quarries. Again, Eric Stahl, the owner of Nat'l Limestone, opened his 2 quarries to our members, allowing us to explore and collect the amazing minerals contained within. As the members congregated in the main office, Eric spoke with us, with his annual sermon, and then we were free to traverse the quarries, looking for minerals and fossils.

At the Middleburg quarry, members were treated to very nice specimens of fluorite, superb calcite formations, including some of the largest and nicest crystals we have seen from this location, and of course, the cave flowstone(travertine), which made lots of members very happy. One junior member even found an intact stalactite, in amazingly good condition! We even stayed an extra hour because the collecting was so extraordinary!

We then moved on to the Mt. Pleasant Mills quarry, and immediately we were finding strontianite specimens from a fresh rockfall in the main pit. Many fine calcite crystals were also found, as well as some fluorites. Then,

a group moved to the top of the mountain, and collected some very nice wavelite and fossil specimens.

Afterward, came the highlight of the trip (as if it couldn't get any better!), we headed to Mifflinburg to visit Jim Van Fleet and his family, to enjoy another wonderful bar-b-que, some fine pies from Ard's Farms, a tour of Jim's amazing fluorescent collection, and some fun garage fluorescent collecting!!

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU goes out to Jim and Eric for their hospitality and friendship, and for opening their homes and properties to our members.

The day was wonderful, and was one of our BEST field trips ever! Everyone had a great time, and went home with carloads of rocks!!!

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### **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.

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### **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](mailto:blimer4evr@yahoo.com).

### **FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE FOR 2015**

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](mailto:dshapiro33@gmail.com)

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### **MINUTES OF THE 717<sup>th</sup> NoJMS MEETING**

The meeting was called to order by Jeff Wilson, the president, on Thursday, October 8, 2015.

A review of the scheduled anticipated events was announced.

Ron Schulz revealed Jesse Jacobson's suggested addition of another swap to the calendar. Deep in the icy days of winter the enclosed pavilion at Sterling Hill would house an event for camaraderie and the trading of gems and minerals.

Arlene Castleman, the treasurer, stated that there is a healthy balance between the club's expenditures and income. She encouraged the payment of the annual dues.

The mineral madness drawing was stocked with items from Sarna Strom's estate. We appreciate this donation and it is a remembrance of such a valued club member

Steve Okulewicz, a geology professor at Hofstra University, presented "Geology and Mineralogy of Staten Island." Staten Island, one of the five New York City Boroughs, surprisingly has the highest point of elevation along the Atlantic seaboard, south of Maine. Its 102.5 square miles comprises 58.5 square miles of land and 44.0 square miles of water. The strata of bedrock is approximately 430 million years old, which is predominantly serpentine minerals, containing mostly the antigorite variety, chrysotile and lizardite. The lecture delineated the types of minerals and their sites.

The presentation was informative, filled with data, lively and accompanied by visual aids. It was a pleasure to experience this animated recitation and we thank Professor Okulewicz.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Brecka, Secretary

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

November 14 & 15, 2015 - Annual New York City Fall Gem & Mineral Show at the Holiday Inn, 57th St & 9th Ave, Manhattan. Sat 10-6, Sun. 11-5

November 28 & 29, 2015 – Morris Museum’s Annual Rock & Mineral Weekend, 6 Normandy Heights Rd., Morristown, NJ. Sat 10-5, Sun. 1-5

**Dec. 6, 2015 – Paterson, NJ – Annual Holiday Party  
Paterson Museum, 2:00-5:00pm**

**2016 SHOWS/EVENTS**

March 5 & 6, 2016 – Newark, DE – Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show at Delaware Technical & Community College, 400 Stanton-Christiana Rd.

**Sat. & Sun. March 12 & 13, 2016 - 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 ROCKHOUNDING SUPPLIES.**
- **ONE OF THE TOP GEM, MINERAL AND FOSSIL SHOWS IN THE NORTHEAST!!**

April 2 & 3, 2016 - Plymouth Meeting, Pa. - The Annual Philadelphia Gem & Mineral Show

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.

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**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 next year. Please note the change in dues. Thank you.



## 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](mailto:howie@uvminerals.org)

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**Supplemental (E-Newsletter Only)**

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**National Limestone Quarries Field Trip Photos – October 17, 2015**  
Photos by Dave Shapiro



Steve Dougherty and Jess J.



Middleburg office while waiting for new member Mark Williams to show up



Lisa Brown



Jeff Wilson and Frank A.



Derek and Diane



Bill Pazik and his son



Mark Williams, Mike "pie man" Dunton, Virginia and her son Alex



Tim Hollister and his son Mark



Crispin Kelsner and Eric Talley



An inside joke for those that went on the trip!!!



Steve "Pickles" Wien and his two daughters Grace and Emma



Steve "Pickles" Wien, his wife Jennifer, Emma and Grace