



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 5

www.NoJMS.webs.com

Thursday, September 11, 2014

705th Meeting – Thursday, September 11, 2014

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome back, I hope everyone enjoyed the summer break.

We will be using our September meeting as a brag night. Bring any minerals you collected, traded, or purchased this summer and show them off! Also if you want to bring a few extras to sell, that is welcome also.

We need a speaker for the October and November meetings, so please let us know if you want to speak or have someone in mind that could put on an entertaining presentation.

Also, spread the word that our Fall Swap and Sale is now going to be held at the Sterling Hill Mining Museum! I will have some flyers for distribution at the September meeting.

Bryan Davis – President

PROGRAM

“Brag Night”

Speaker

N/A

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.

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!

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 2014

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

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.

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.

**Autumn North Jersey Outdoor Rock & Mineral
Swap-N-Sell**

October 18 & 19, 2014
9am-5pm



Sterling Hill Mining Museum
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.....

- 1/2 Price Museum Admission and Mine Tours!!! (Coupons available at the Club table)
- 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

For those interested, On Saturday evening, Oct. 18, Sterling Hill Museum will be holding a night UV dig in the quarry pits! Museum membership is required to participate, but they will allow membership sign-ups up until the time of the dig!

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-

Our outdoor show in Oct. 2014 will be handled a bit differently than in the past.

If you stuck with us and set up as a vendor at our Spring, 2014 Sterling Hill Show, you will automatically be invited to set up with us in October. We will also invite back some of our vendors from past Riverdale shows. Any remaining spaces will be allotted after our core dealers are confirmed. Table fees and set up time will remain the same as our shows in the past.

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

We have even more exciting plans in the works for this October's show!!! More info will be posted as the date gets closer!

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.

For show info please contact: Show Chairman:

Bryan Davis
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.

NATIONAL LIMESTONE QUARRY FIELD TRIP

By Jeff Wilson

June 7, 2014 - National Limestone Quarries, Middleburg and Mt. Pleasant Mills, Pa. - 25 members made the 3 hour trip out to central Pennsylvania and were well rewarded for the driving effort! The first stop was the National Limestone Quarry in Middleburg. At the quarry, eager collectors were treated to great specimens of deep purple fluorite, galena, red and orange quartz crystals, white quartz crystals with blood red veins, sulfur, several different varieties of calcite including cubic, bladed and dogtooth crystals, and the most amazing of all, golden calcite flowstone, excavated from a collapsed cavern located within the quarry. 10-ton stalagmites and stalagmites were placed along the road in the quarry and massive slabs and chunks of golden flowstone, comprised of calcite, were placed for us to collect from. Much of the flowstone was tightly banded and quite colorful, while other specimens were solid calcite, and others were comprised of tightly packed dogtooth crystals, that will make your jaw drop when viewed under a loupe. This was so special to us, because when would rockhounds EVER get to collect cave flowstone? And the material was so unique and beautiful, some of us could not get enough!!! Then, we moved to the Mt. Pleasant Mills quarry, where members collected fossils, wavellite, and large amounts of cubic golden, and colorless dogtooth calcite crystals, as well as a couple specimens of strontianite. With strained springs and shock absorbers, fully loaded cars and SUV's driven by totally exhausted collectors, headed to Mifflinburg and enjoyed a superb Bar-B-Que and garage collecting trip at Jim Van Fleet's home. Jim and his wife shared their hospitality with NoJMS members as collecting stories, jokes, and many laughs were enjoyed by all. Oh, and those fresh strawberries!!!!!! What a day!!!! This was by far the best field trip I have been involved in with our club, and I can't wait for our next trip!! A great big thanks goes to Mr. Eric Stahl of Nat'l Limestone, and Jim Van Fleet and his family for making our day so special! Attendees were: Jeff Wilson, tripmaster, Jess Jacobsen, Ron Schulz, Bill Archer, Mike Machette, Dave Shapiro, Laura Schmeltz, Nicole Rios, Julia Rios, Steve Dougherty, Joy Edgington, Frank Stranski, Alaine Mack, George Mack, Joe Marciniak, Linda Marciniak,

Rhianna, Michael, Brendan, and Carol Wasilewski, Mike Dunton, Rich Rosa, Jen Rosa, Ray Clark, Kathy Clark, and Bob Allen.

BIG BROOK FIELD TRIP

By Jeff Wilson

June 28, 2014 - Big Brook, NJ - 21 members attended this trip on a perfect early summer day for a fun morning and early afternoon of sifting through the gravel beds of Big Brook looking for fossil sharks teeth and more. Numerous species of sharks teeth were found by collectors and a fun time was had by everyone! One member (yours truly) found a very rare mosasaur tooth! We will be returning to Big Brook again in late August with hopes of finding even more great New Jersey fossils! Attending were: Jeff Wilson, your tripmaster; Derek Yoost, your fossil expert; Mike Machette, Jim & Anne Wilson, Diana Tasco, Joe & Linda Marciniak, The Clark Family, The Spiegelglas Family, Jim & Mark Hollister, and several additional members who joined the group in the brook later.

BIG BROOK FIELD TRIP

By Jeff Wilson

August 30, 2014 - 6 members and 2 guests attended this fun trip back to Big Brook! Lots of shark teeth and fossils were found by everyone. Several large goblin shark teeth were found by Jeff, Marilyn, and Herb as the rest of the group sifted through the gravels on this warm late summer day. The trip was led by Derek Yoost and Mike Machette. Also in attendance were Jeff W., Kathy O., Marilyn O., Steve, Herb and George.

FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE FOR 2014

On September 20th, 9:00a.m. - Annual Club Picnic, Tour and Collecting Trip at Sterling Hill Mining Museum; Mine tour - 9:30am, Picnic - 12:00pm, Collecting all day, Black Out Tour in the afternoon.

October - Date To Be Announced..... National Limestone Quarries, Middleburg & Mount Pleasant Mills - 2 quarries 1 Day!

November - To be announced

Details will be available at club meetings, or you can contact Jeff via e-mail at buckwood4@yahoo.com

BREAKING CLUB NEWS

It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that we announce the passing of senior member and good friend, Greta Troy on Saturday morning, August 16, 2014. Greta was a friendly, happy and strong-willed person, and a fixture at our annual show for years and years. She will be missed. Please share our deepest sympathies and prayers with Jack Troy, her husband, and her family during this difficult time.



Greta Troy 11/5/1940 - 08/16/2014

NEW MICROMOUNT GROUP

I will need a head count as to who would be interested before I move on with the Micro Mount group. Please let me know either by emailing me at timeman123@optonline.net or let me know at the next monthly meeting. This will be open to everyone that is interested in joining. If anyone has any ideas as to what you would like to do in the group and trade lots of micros with people in the group, please let's get this started.

Bob Santee

MINUTES OF THE 704th NoJMS MEETING

The meeting was called to order by the Vice President, Jeff Wilson, on Thursday, June 12, 2014.

It was noted that the need to switch venues of the Riverdale Show to Sterling Hill, at the last minute, was a testament to the club's cooperation, sense of community and flexibility. The show was a resounding success in all ways including sunny, warm weather.

All who participated in the big turnout for the field trip to two Pennsylvania quarries, were rewarded with a day of fun, consisting of collecting interesting specimens and being treated to a cookout.

Arlene Castleman gave the treasurer's report, which stated that the club's assets are healthy.

There was a Mineral Madness drawing.

The club was fortunate to have Cap Beesley as the presenter for the evening. He is a graduate gemologist of the Gemological Institute of America, the recipient of numerous industry awards and the founder of the New York based American Gemological Laboratories.

Cap had ventured to the mountainous region of Kashmir, where he faced the challenges of treacherous terrain, political tension and an hostile environment. The lecture was accompanied by two videos, a display of pricey tourmalines and exquisite photographs.

Isn't everyone envious of an adventurer who takes risks, pursues dreams and has had unique experiences? Cap has done all of this while accumulating a wealth of minerals and knowledge.

Thank you for sharing.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Brecka, Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 27 & 28, 2014 - Franklin, NJ - Annual Fall Show, sponsored by the Franklin Mineral Museum, Franklin School, Buckwheat Road, Franklin, NJ

September 27 & 28, 2014 - Ogdensburg, NJ, Annual Fall Sterling Hill Garage Sale, Sterling Hill Mining Museum

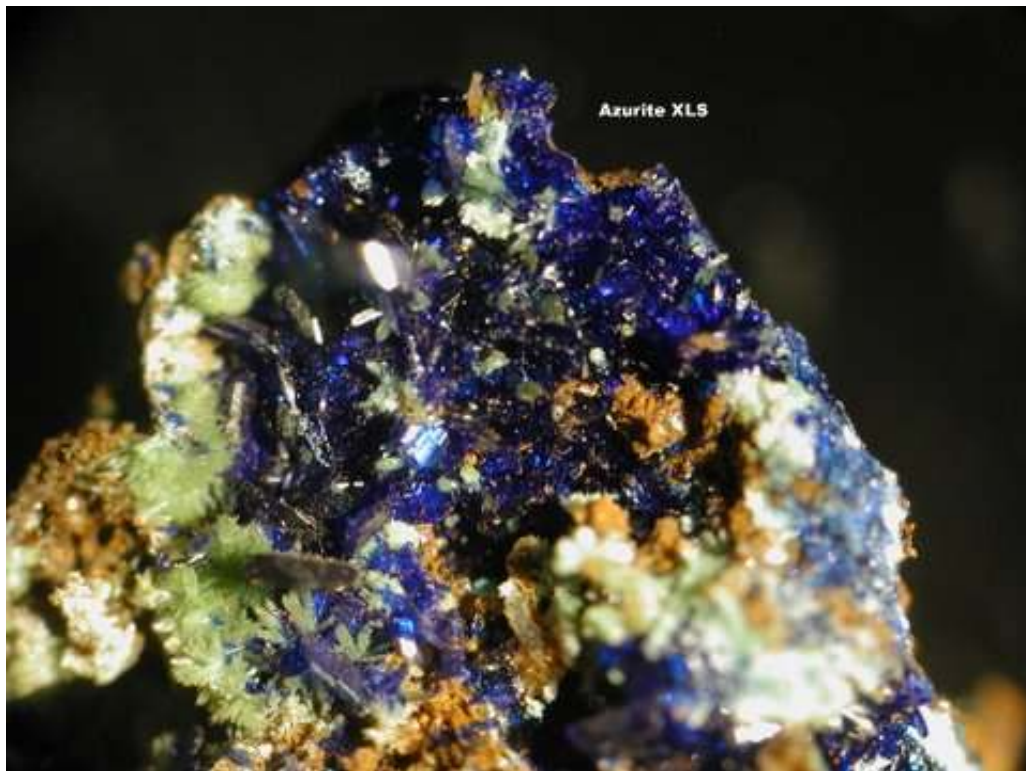
October 4, 2014 - Macungie, Pa. - Annual Fall Mineralfest

October 18 & 19, 2014 – Ogdensburg, NJ - Autumn North Jersey Outdoor Rock & Mineral Swap-N-Sell, From Rt. 23 and Rt. 15, Exit for Rt. 517 and Follow signs to the Museum.

November 1 & 2, 2014 - Mountainside, NJ - Annual Rock & Mineral Weekend at the Trailside Nature & Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside, NJ. Sponsored by the New Jersey Mineralogical Society. 12-5pm

Supplemental (E-Newsletter Only)

MICRO CORNER



AZURITE XLS



GOLD Flake from AZ

AUGUST 30, 2014 BIG BROOK FIELD TRIP



Marilyn, Kathy and Derek working the gravel bar



Mike M. examines his screen



Jeff's "haul" from the brook!

JUNE 28, 2014 BIG BROOK FIELD TRIP



Club members pose for our group photo under the Boundary Rd. Bridge in Big Brook.



Attendees spread out through the brook and begin the hunting!



Jeff's finds, including a rare Mosasaur tooth!! (Top Left)

JUNE 7, 2014 NATIONAL LIMESTONE QUARRY FIELD TRIP



Club members wait to sign in and hit the rocks!



Club members arrive at the quarry in Middleburg and prepare to start collecting. The machinery working on the hill behind the cars is preparing the flowstone specimens for our group to collect.

Garnets from Red Embers Mine light up Springfield Show

One of the new finds (and big hits) at Springfield this year were the Garnets from Red Embers Mine, released to the mineral market by Jason Baskin, long time NoJMS member. The American Museum of Natural History, Yale, The University of Arizona, and many others purchased specimens at the Springfield show this past August.

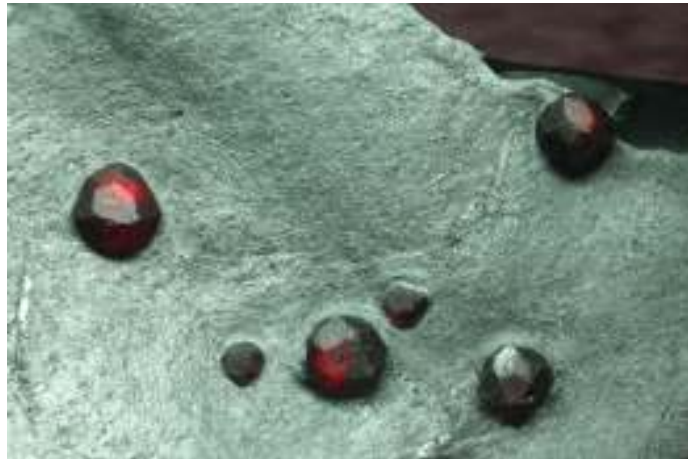


The project started 16 years ago when Jim Garabedian who worked the garnet mine in Erving, Massachusetts, then named the Two Fat Guys Mine⁽¹⁾, brought James Zigras and Jason Baskin to the site to collect for a few hours. Since getting permission to work the prospect 8 – 10 years ago, Jason has been mining by hand with sledge hammers, chisels, and wedges with his cousin Kyle Baskin and Uncle Kevin Baskin.



Above: Jason showing off a freshly mined plate of garnets
Left: Kyle using a sledge hammer and wedges to break off a chunk of graphite.

The almandine/pyrope garnets are found in a massive graphite vein which varies in thickness from one foot wide to six feet wide in some areas. sporadically on planes in the graphite veinlets that are only ¼ mm to 1 mm



university in Connecticut identified an mineral as black dravite tourmaline, occurs in the graphite between the bright red garnet crystals range in size 1-1/8" tip to tip. The garnets are gem largest stone cut so far is a whopping The specimens are processed using air a unique plastic blasting media Kramer industries which is aggressive gentle on the tourmaline and garnets. are abraded on both sides so that the visible from both sides of the specimen, allowing light to show through and show the gem quality of the crystals and the phenomenal color. A typical 5" x 5" specimen takes on average an hour or more to process to expose the garnets. The largest piece took over 20 hours to abrade and prepare. Processing of the specimens presented at the Springfield show has been progressing, mostly in secret, for the past four years.

Garnets form on mica thick. A accompanying which also garnets. The from 1 mm to quality and the 4.72 carats. abrasion using provided by on graphite and The specimens garnets are



Almost 50 flats have sold in the last 2 weeks, exhausting almost the entire inventory processed in the last 4 years. Some of the largest specimens have upward of 70 garnets on one specimen, with individual crystals up to the size of a dime. The largest specimen to date is 16" x 11".

The site is closed to collectors and is both posted and under video surveillance. However, specimens can continue to be obtained via Jason Baskin who will be selling at the Franklin Show and most likely at the NoJMS fall swap and sale at the Sterling Hill Mining Museum. Select specimens and cut stones will also be featured by NoJMS member Alan Benson at the Denver Coliseum show. Jason is also working with Eric Greene of Treasure Mountain Mining on articles for Rocks and Minerals and the Mineralogical Record.

(1) What's New In Minerals; Mineralogical Record, vol. 34, no. 3, page 276-285