



# 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 1**

[www.NoJMS.webs.com](http://www.NoJMS.webs.com)

**Thursday, January 12, 2017**

731<sup>st</sup> Meeting – Thursday, January 12, 2017

## FINAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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

Hello to all members,

### PROGRAM

TBD

#### Speaker

Derek Yoost

### Mineral Madness

I am proud of our club's accomplishments over the last 2 years. My term as president has ended, and I could not be more proud of NoJMS. We are active, doing things we've never done, going to places we've never been, and having a blast doing it!! Having a good time enjoying our hobby is what it's all about!

### 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.

I hereby hand the gavel back to our new President, Ron Schulz. Ron will do as he always does, keeping the club moving forward. I will still play a part, as show chairman, and board member, but my ability to interact with everyone at club meetings will be limited due to a recent job change, which will prevent me from attending most meetings. But I will still see everyone at shows, field trips, and activities as usual.

### 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 Midland Park Show will be my main focus from now until the show on April 1 & 2. As always, ANY help you can give over the course of the show will be greatly appreciated. Show setup will begin at 4:00 on Friday, March 31. Take down will be from 4-8pm on Sunday, April 2. And, we will need table help during the show on Sat & Sun, from 10am till 4pm. So, please give some time back to the club and volunteer at the show!!!

I will see everyone again very soon.

Jeff Wilson

#### 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

**Blast from the Past!!**

By Jeff Wilson

From Rocks & Minerals Magazine, August, 1968

Surprise Azurite Discovery in New Brunswick, NJ!  
by Peter Modreski

Collectors may be interested to learn of an occurrence of copper-related minerals during a sewer excavation, near Rutgers University, in downtown New Brunswick, NJ.

During a sewer installation project at the intersection of George Street and College Avenue, in a triangular plot of grass and weeds, a portion of the Brunswick Formation was exposed. Normally a red shale, this particular spot contained a gray hornfels with sparkling flakes of mica, and deep blue azurite lining the bedding planes, along with some minor malachite. Evidently, the actions of hydrothermal fluids altered the shale, and produced this very localized deposit of copper minerals.

Although most of the azurite found is in thin crusts of indistinct crystals, a small number of specimens have been recovered containing small vugs and voids, containing complete micro-sized azurite crystals. The malachite can only be seen with a magnifier. The deposit is unique because unlike other similar deposits, azurite is by far the prominent mineral.

This is a short-term opportunity as this sewer project will not last long. It is also worth your time to visit the museum of geology at Rutgers, located only a few blocks away.

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**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](http://www.kidsloverocks.com)> and is kid-friendly!

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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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**Sparta Historical Society Field Trip Report**

By Jeff Wilson

NoJMS was invited to join the Sparta Historical Society for a talk and exhibit about the history of the Lime Crest Quarry, presented by Braen's Stone, Inc. on November 27, 2016.

The talk was very interesting, speaking of the men and minerals of the quarry during its 100+ years of operation. On display were various artifacts from the quarry, including promotional items from the company, many of which were loaned to the museum by Dick Hauck. Also displayed were numerous incredible mineral specimens collected from the quarry over the years, including specimens of Ruby and Sapphire. There was also a nice fluorescent display from area localities in an upstairs room which contained many ancient mining artifacts.

The Historical Society's Museum, located in an 1800's farmhouse is very nice and is worth a visit. They have plans, which are being worked on now, to convert the basement of the house, which has its own separate entrance, into a world-class mineral and mining museum!

The museum is located on Rt. 517, in between Ogdensburg and Sparta, just down the road from the entrance to Sterling Hill. It uses the same entrance as the Sparta Middle School.

Attending NoJMS members were: Mark and Tim Hollister, Linda Lovstad, Mike Machette, Dick and Elna Hauck, and Jeff Wilson.

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**Holiday Party – 2016!!**

by Jeff Wilson

90 NoJMS members attended our Annual Holiday Party at the Museum on Dec. 4. It was an incredible party!!! Many members said it was the best EVER!!! Members were treated to a wonderful buffet catered by The Brownstone. We had a fun Mineral Madness, and a super silent and voice auction! Several large and beautiful specimens were given away during the festivities as door prizes!

But the highlight of the afternoon was the gift boxes, prepared for all attendees, containing beautiful Herkimer Diamonds!! The Herks were donated to the club by the Franke Family of Boonton, NJ. Everyone had OOH's and AAAH's when the boxes were simultaneously opened. Then as a special treat, the largest specimens that did not fit into the boxes were given away in a secondary secret drawing. Then, it was revealed that the centerpieces at each table were filled with Herkimer Diamonds too! Those were also given away in a secret drawing. In all, over 500 Herkimer Diamonds were given to members at the party!

Our party was a "Sparkling Success"!! Thanks to Ron Schulz who dedicated his time and efforts to create wonderful auctions, and mineral madness, and for arranging the catering, and the Franke Family who donated all those wonderful Herks. And a big THANK YOU to all members who helped set up and clean up the mess afterward!

What a party it was.....

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

**28<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> year at this great location!**

**FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE FOR 2017**

Details will be available on our club website, at upcoming club meetings or you can contact Dave Shapiro at [dshapiro33@gmail.com](mailto:dshapiro33@gmail.com)

Check our website often for trip updates!

**MINUTES OF THE 728<sup>th</sup> NoJMS MEETING**

The meeting was called to order by Jeff Wilson, the President, on Thursday, November 10, 2016.

The holiday party will be held on 12/04/16, at 1:00 p.m. There will be delicious food, fantastic specimens in the auctions and prizes. Bring your wallets and if you have any, bring some folding chairs that are needed.

To express gratitude to the Sterling Hill Mining Museum the club has adopted the picnic area near the pavilion. Cleaning, trimming and laying down pavers will benefit the museum while dedicating this undertaking to the memory of Sarna Strom.

**THE SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2017 WAS ELECTED**

**President** – Ron Schulz

**1st Vice President and Assistant Treasurer** – Steve Wien

**2nd Vice President** – Dave Shapiro

**Treasurer** – Arlene Castleman

**Secretary** – Laura Brecka

**Trustee** – Jeff Wilson

**Trustee** – Jesse Jacobson

**Trustee** – Dave Miller

Another field trip has been added to the roster. The Sparta Historical Society is presenting “The Lime Crest Quarry History,” on November 27, 2016. All are welcomed but call to indicate that you will attend.

Mineral Madness took place which always adds a bit of amusement to the evening.

Jeff Wilson gave a presentation titled “Badlands Texas,” which he had visited years ago. Miners converged in the mid-1880’s in the southwestern corner of Texas, a rugged, stark expanse, 12 miles from the Rio Grande and the Mexican border. At that time the population swelled to 2,000 in the town of Terlingua. Currently, it has receded to two small grocery stores, a gas station and four bars.

Prior to recognizing its toxicity, mercury was refined by crushing, roasting and collecting the evaporation of cinnabar ore. The bright scarlet to brick-red coloration was used in cosmetics and coloring lacquer ware. The miners' graveyard with rough wooden crosses and wreaths that still remain, bears witness to shortened life expectancy. It was not known that exposure to the poisonous mercury fumes could be lethal.

Jeff Wilson presided over his final meeting as the president of the club for 2016. No one could have been more devoted, committed, impassioned and enthusiastic. Factor into the accolades that he is good natured, affable and cheerful. The club was fortuitous to have his multitudinous contributions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Brecka, Secretary

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

March 4 & 5, 2017 – Wilmington, DE – 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show

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.

**April 1 & 2, 2017 – Midland Park, NJ – 28<sup>th</sup> 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 22, 2017 – Sterling Hill Super Dig

April 22 & 23, 2017 - Annual Spring Franklin Gem & Mineral Show & Swap, Franklin Elementary School, Washington Ave. Franklin, NJ

April 22 & 23, 2017 - Ogdensburg, NJ – Annual Sterling Hill Garage Sale

April 22 & 23, 2017 - Franklin, NJ - Annual NJ Earth Science Association Show at the Washington School

**May, 2017 – Ogdensburg, NJ – NoJMS Spring Swap & Sale at Sterling Hill Mining Museum**

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

June 3 & 4, 2017 - Monroe, New York - Annual Mineral, Jewelry, Gem & Fossil Show

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### 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.

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### 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](mailto:pollingmel@optonline.net) (Preferred contact method)

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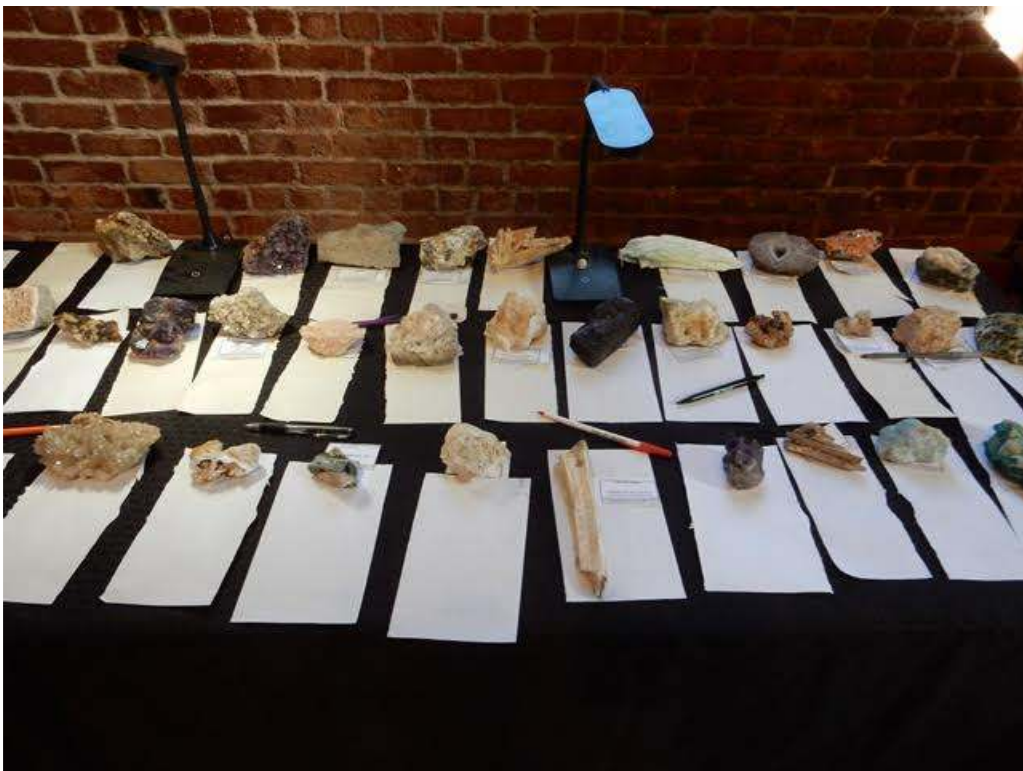
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**Supplemental (E-Newsletter Only)**

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Holiday Party Photos – December 4, 2016  
Photos by Dan Sackerman















**Holiday Party Photos – December 4, 2016**  
Photos by Arlene Castleman







**Sparta Historical Society Field Trip Photos – November 27, 2016**

Photos by Jeff Wilson









**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.