



# 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 3

www.NoJMS.webs.com

Thursday, May 8, 2014

703<sup>rd</sup> Meeting – Thursday, May 8, 2014

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

## PROGRAM

“Full Report on the Amazing Tuscon Show!”

### Speaker

Herschel Friedman

### 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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring is here at long last! The weather has warmed up and a lot of rain has come our way. The Franklin show was lucky to have had some good weather, a lot of NoJMS members could be seen shopping and selling. It looked as though the threat of bad weather resulted in fewer outdoor dealers than usual and many dealers coming late in the morning but there were still many things to see. Spring means the beginning of collecting season for most of us, and we have a few upcoming club sponsored trips. Have fun, and remember to be safe while collecting!

Bryan Davis – President

**May 31 & June 1, 2014  
Riverdale, NJ**

**Annual Spring Outdoor Gem & Mineral Show & Swap**

**Glenburn Estate  
211 Hamburg Tpke (Just off I-287)  
Riverdale, NJ**

**See website for more details!**

## MAY SPECIAL GUEST

Kris Smatkitboriharn, owner of “Intimate Gems” and a New York City dealer of rough gemstones, crystals, and lapidary material from around the world will do a “show and tell” about various locations in Africa and Asia that produce some of the world's best lapidary materials. A donation of some lapidary material will be made to club members.

**2014 EDISON SHOW REPORT**

The Edison NY/NJ Metro Show was held on April 11-13, 2014 at the NJ Convention and Expo Center. The organizers of the show were gracious enough to allow New Jersey Rock Clubs to set up tables to promote their clubs, free of charge, at the show. For the second year in a row, NoJMS set up our table, proudly displaying our club banner, and distributing various information about who we are and what we do. Several club members volunteered their time and efforts to man the table throughout the weekend. FOMS, NJ Paleo, and the New Jersey Mineralogical Society also set up great tables at the show.

The show was larger this year, and, according to show promoters, there were over 50 additional dealers. It was my personal observation that there were more bead and jewelry dealers than ever, and precious few true mineral dealers. Fossil dealers were plentiful, and many had incredible displays. There was a section of display cases near the entrance, featuring New Jersey minerals. However, many cases sat unused, and empty, which was a bit disappointing. But the cases that were utilized displayed some incredible specimens from the collections of Eric Stanchich, Herschel Friedman, Glenn Rhein, several Franklin Collectors, and others. There was a Franklin Fluorescent room, and of course, the Premium Dealer room, with some of the best specimens in the world for sale. Also, this year, several of the cast members of the show "Prospectors" set up tables under the 30 foot banner, and spoke with attendees about the hobby, and promoting the show. I had the privilege of speaking at length with all of them, discussing our club, and the state of collecting. The Prospectors who were at the show were The Busse Family, Dwayne Hall & Mark Krivanek, and Amanda Adkins & Travis Anderson. Great folks doing a great job to promote Rockhounding. A discussion between myself and cast members brought to light the need to build a network of clubs and organizations to work together and promote mineral clubs and organizations all over the U.S.

Our table was busy all weekend. We added several new members, chatted with old friends, met new friends, and displayed some of our own collections at the club table.

Jeff Wilson

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**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.

**MORRIS PLAINS BOROUGH SCHOOL**

Once again, there was an opportunity to encourage future rock hounds at the Morris Plains Borough School's, annual, science night. On Thursday, March 13, 2014, Ron Schulz, assisted by Laura Brecka, participated in a presentation.

The steady stream of visitors, both young and old, were fascinated by the specimens on display and thrilled to take home a selection of their choice.

A lot of excitement was generated between encouraging youngsters to develop an avid interest and the issuing of 12 membership applications for the North Jersey Mineralogical Society.

A special thank you goes to Juan Gonzalez for lending the club's sign and a few specimens for show and tell, to the event, to Warren and Susan Gonzalez and Al Lombardi for generously donating the assortment of minerals for the children to take home!

A good time was had by all. Perhaps there could be other events that would be enjoyable for the club presenters while simultaneously drawing new members.

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**FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE FOR 2014**

We are planning several field trips for our 2014 season!

On June 7, We will be driving out to Pennsylvania to visit our friend, Eric Stahl from National Limestone Quarries. This year, we will be visiting 2 quarries owned by NLQ, one in the morning, and one in the afternoon. Details will be available at the May meeting.

On June 28, we will be doing our annual trip to Big Brook to hunt for fossil Shark Teeth. This is a popular trip, and a ton of fun! Details will be available at the June meeting.

On August 30, we will run a second trip to Big Brook!!!

In mid September, we will again hold our annual club picnic and collecting trip to Sterling Hill. The exact date will be announced soon.

On October 11, we will take a trip to Carbondale, Pa to collect some fern and calamite fossils, then take a tour of the nearby Lackawanna Coal Mine. This is another fun and enjoyable trip!

Details will be available at club meetings, or you can contact Jeff via e-mail at [buckwood4@yahoo.com](mailto:buckwood4@yahoo.com)

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### "Stumbling into Wealth"

By Jeff Wilson

I thought that I was relatively well versed in geography... or so I thought.... until I saw a PBS special about the tiny island nation of Nauru, located in the western Pacific Ocean. This tiny speck of an island lies over 200 miles from its nearest neighbor. This 8 square mile nation is the world's smallest republic, and sits on one of the greatest mineral deposits on earth. Because of this, Nauru has quietly become one of the richest nations, per capita, in the world. Here is the interesting story of the accidental discovery of the hidden wealth of the nation of Nauru.

In 1899, Albert Ellis, a notable geologist of his time, was leaving the offices of the British Pacific Island Company, when he stumbled over a doorstep propping the front door open, and made a discovery that changed the future of this small island. The company's manager had visited Nauru earlier in the year, and had found this lump of heavy driftwood and brought it back as a souvenir. It was heavy enough to use as a doorstep, and it was quite attractive as driftwood goes, so he employed it at the office to prop the door open on warm days. When Mr. Ellis had his unfortunate "trip", he picked up the lump and examined it closely. He concluded that it was not driftwood at all, but rather, after several tests and examinations, discovered it was a rock of nearly pure phosphate. The next year, Ellis visited Nauru, and discovered that the entire island was indeed made of solid and nearly pure phosphate. He determined that the phosphate originated from the remains of an ancient sea bed, and the bodies of countless sea creatures. Phosphate is prized worldwide as a fertilizer.

For the next 70 years, Australia ruled over the tiny island, reaping most of the rewards from the mining operations. When the island gained its independence from Australia in 1968, 100 percent of the revenue from the mining went to it's citizens. Throughout the 20th century, Nauru was the world's leading producer of phosphate, and today the mining and production of the phosphate makes up nearly all of the nation's economy. The 4600 citizens of Nauru all profit from this mining production. They pay absolutely no taxes. Citizens enjoy housing, telephone, transportation, health care, schools, and other governmental services totally free of charge, all thanks to the phosphate! But the best thing of all is that every working citizen of Nauru earns an annual

salary of over \$100,000, weather he is a manager or common laborer!

The phosphate deposit is predicted to "run dry" in the year 2020, but the government of Nauru has built a trust fund of nearly \$500,000 PER CITIZEN so that when the deposit is finally runs out, the nation and its people can continue on, indefinitely reaping the rewards of their island's incredible treasure.

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### 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](mailto: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

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### NEW FIELD TRIP

PROPOSED FIELD TRIP TO HOWARD GREEN'S HOME IN JERICHO, LONG ISLAND TO SEE HIS FAMOUS FLUORESCENT MINERALS, ESPECIALLY HIS WORLD FAMOUS APATITES. HOWIE IS ONE OF THE MAIN MEMBERS OF THE STERLING HILL CLUB. HE IS OFFERING PIZZA AND DRINKS FOR THOSE WHO COME. THE VISIT WOULD BE ON A SATURDAY. HIS HOME IS RIGHT OFF THE LONG ISLAND EXPRESSWAY. WE NEED A HEAD COUNT OF THOSE WHO WISH TO ATTEND. PLEASE CONTACT BOB ALLEN VIA EMAIL AT [allens45@netzero.net](mailto:allens45@netzero.net) OR OUR CLUB'S FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE.

THANKS  
BOB ALLEN

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Special thanks to Jess Jacobson and Mike Machette for finding this very interesting article from Paterson, NJ.

**New Plan Could Save Scenic Paterson Reservoir**

<http://www.northjersey.com/news/new-plan-could-save-scenic-paterson-reservoir-1.998763>

MINUTES OF THE 702<sup>nd</sup> NoJMS MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Bryan Davis, the President, on Thursday, April 10, 2014.

Ron Schulz encouraged others to follow his lead and participate in events that will encourage membership. Annually, he presents his display at the Morris Plains Borough School. On March 13, 2014, at the science fair, the middle school children and their parents were eager to visit his classroom, to examine the assortment and receive a specimen.

Bob Santee informed the club that a micro mount group is starting. They are seeking members and there is no cost to participate.

Arlene Castleman, the Treasurer, stated that the Clifton Show profits have contributed to the club's solvent bank balance.

Field trips have been scheduled. June 7, 2014 will be a full day trip to two quarries in Pennsylvania. One quarry is in Middleburg and the other is in Mount Pleasant Mills. On June 28, 2014, there will be a field trip to Big Brook, in Colts Neck, NJ to look for sharks teeth and marine fossils.

Every meeting there has been a solicitation for a field trip captain. Dave Shapiro has generously volunteered to take charge of this assignment. The club welcomes and thanks him.

The mineral madness featured drawings from two separate offerings and a mystery box. The recipients selected specimens and the surprise offering was a tea kettle.

John Sanfacon gave a presentation on "The World's Greatest Agate Collection." He has a remarkable knowledge of the technical intricacies of minerals and a deep aesthetic appreciation for their splendor. Displayed were spectacular photos of agates from Germany, Poland, Mexico, Brazil and even the United States. The club is grateful for such a riveting display and thanks John for his time and effort.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Brecka, Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS

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 Turnpike. Riverdale, NJ**

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

June 7, 2014 – Kent, CT - 12th Annual Mineral, Gem, and Jewelry Show, held on the grounds of the Connecticut Antique Machinery Association 1 mile north of Kent, CT on Route 7 (31 Kent-Cornwall Road).

- Free Admission
- For information check our website at <http://www.ctamachinery.com>
- New Vendors Welcome or call (860) 927-0050

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

September 27 & 28, 2014 - Franklin, NJ - Annual Fall Franklin Show & Sterling Hill Garage Sale

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**

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### Mineral Humor

The Law of Vug Depth:

The distance to the best crystal cluster in the vug shall always be:

Length of Arm + Length of Longest Tool + 3/4 of an inch

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Supplemental (E-Newsletter Only)

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**MICRO CORNER**



**STRONTIANITE sprays from PA**



**GOLD on QUARTZ from AZ**

**2014 EDISON SHOW**



**Bob Allen manning the club table**



**Herschel Friedman and Juan Gonzales at the Minerals.net booth**



The Prospectors wall



The Busse Family from the show Prospectors



Mark Krivanek and Dwayne Hall from the show Prospectors



Travis Anderson and Amanda Adkins from the show Prospectors

**MORRIS PLAINS BOROUGH SCHOOL**



