



MICROMOUNTERS OF NEW ENGLAND NEWSLETTER

April, 2001

no. 230

The MMNE was organized on November 8, 1966, for the purpose of promoting the study of minerals that require a microscope

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Next Meeting

May 20, Annual MMNE May meeting, Marlborough, MA.

Dues are \$7.00/year and due on January 1st, payable to the membership chairman:
Brian Porter.
355 Walsh Ave.
Newington, CT 06111

News items for the *Newsletter* are welcome and should be submitted to the Editor.
The *Newsletter* may be quoted if credit is given.
The Club address is c/o Editor.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the MMNE is on April 21, 2001 at the Sudbury, MA Public Library. This is our annual business meeting and will include the election of club officers.

Club news and notes

New telephone area codes are due in May for Eastern Massachusetts. Only new phones will be assigned new area codes, unless you have changed your current number. Be sure to notify membership chairman Brian Porter of any changes.

The New Haven Mineral Club is setting up a website, which should have much to offer us. They are asking for input. The website can be accessed at www.newhavenmineralclub.org.

Violet Carr (Mrs. Ralph Carr) may be reached at
Methodist Health Care Center
30 Alexander Ave.
East Providence, RI 02914
(401) 438-7210

She would appreciate hearing from you even if only a card or a note.

Interesting reading – Janet Cares

Have you read the editorial in the Sept/Oct 2000 *Mineralogical Record* on “The Fascination with Perfection”? It says in part, “...for those who are hopelessly addicted, and who need their daily dose of perfection, there is a treatment: buy a microscope and become a micromounter. It may not be elite, but it is the home of perfection.” The editorial is unsigned, but is presumably by Wendell Wilson. Perhaps Mr. Wilson has seen the light re micromounting...

Mineral News for February, 2001 has an article by Ken Hollman on the VAG mine (Belvedere Mtn., Lowell, VT, known to many as “Eden Mills”), which should be of interest of anyone who has, or plans to, collect there. This issue also has a report on the Tucson show.

An article by Eric Greene and John Marshall, Jr. in the March/April *Rocks and Minerals* is entitled “Loudville Pyromorphite”. It describes recovery of cabinet specimens of pyromorphite, although there is much of interest for the micromounter. A second article by John Marshall is on his collecting experiences at Loudville from 1969 to 1971.

Last call for dues

This is the last notification of MMNE dues payment for 2001. Membership is \$7 per year, payable to Brian Porter, membership chairman. Anyone not paid up by May, 2001, will be dropped from the membership list.

Calendar of upcoming events

April 19-22, 2001, Rochester, NY. 28th Rochester Mineralogical Symposium. Radisson Inn, 175 Jefferson Rd., Rochester, NY. Info: PO Box 85, Manlius, NY 13104-0085.

April 21, 2001, Sudbury, MA. Monthly MMNE meeting. Sudbury Public Library.

May 4-6, 2001, St. Catharines, Ontario. 38th CMMA Annual Micromounters Conference, Brock University.

May 11-13, 2001, Augusta, ME. 12th Annual Maine Mineralogical Symposium. Senator Inn, Augusta. Info: Woodrow Thompson, Maine Geol. Survey, 22 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0022. Tel: (207) 287 7178. Email: woodrow.b.thompson@state.me.us

May 20 (Sunday), 2001, Marlboro, MA. MMNE Northeast Meeting. Moose Lodge, Marlboro, MA.

Aug. 10-12, 2001, Springfield, MA. East Coast Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show. Better Living Center at Eastern States Exposition, 1305 Memorial Dr., West Springfield, MA.

Keying Labels and Descriptions to Marker Arrows – Bill Henderson

For many years, I've attached variously colored arrows to micro specimens to highlight crystals of interest. I've done so not only on specimens for trade but also on micromounts and larger micro specimens for my own collection. In letters accompanying trade specimens, I describe each species on a specimen, and after each, write "red (or green or blue) arrow". For my own specimens, I may write on the label a brief description of each species, but always indicate the arrow color after each species name. Until recently, it never occurred to me that there is a better way.

Recently, I received from John Dagenais (6365 Sunwood Drive, Delta, BC, Canada V4E 3A9) a very fine assortment of all the rare sulfosalts from the Van Silver mine, as described in Min. Rec. 219 (2000). The specimens he sent were in labeled boxes, with or as many as two or three colored arrows pointing to different species in a box. However, rather than write "red arrow", or whatever, he SIMPLY PUTS A DOT OF THE SAME COLOR AFTER THE SPECIES NAME ON THE LABEL! The space saved on micromount labels (or even larger labels) is extremely significant, and makes this practice very worthwhile. Now, why didn't I think of that?

One small problem arose when I put several of his specimens in my ultrasonic cleaner. After washing, two or more of his arrows on several specimens came out white since he had used water-soluble ink! Luckily, I had studied the specimens well enough to put the colors back where they belonged.

Sudbury is about half way between Rtes I-495 and I-95(128). The library is just north of Rte 20 on the Old Concord Road. Please do not use the library parking lot, but rather the one behind the bank just south of the library. It is just a few steps from there to the rear door of the library where the meeting room is.

SUDBURY, MA
PUBLIC LIBRARY

