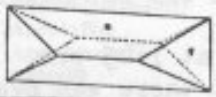
Arsenopyrite

Franconia, N. H.



Dues are $3.50 per year and are due on January 1st, payable to the Treasurer

Contributions of news items for the Bulletin are welcome and should be sent to the Bulletin Editor.

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This bulletin may be quoted if credit is given.

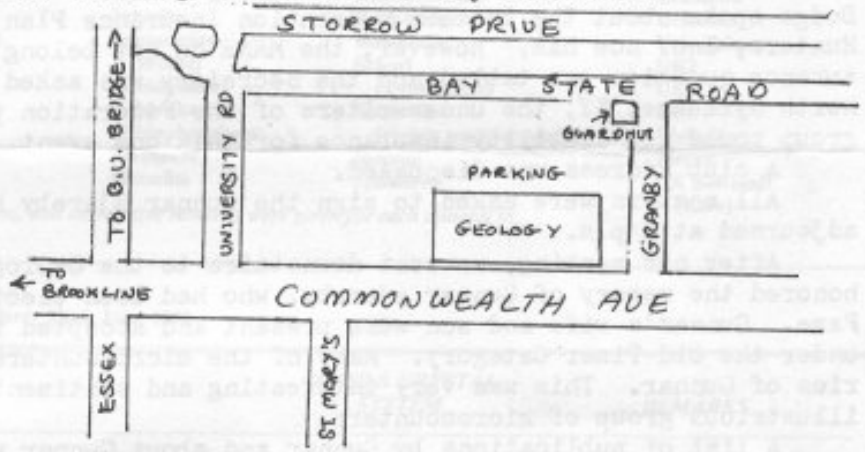
→ NEXT MONTH

The next meeting of the MMNE will be on Saturday, February 15, 1986 at the Public Library in Auburn, MA

MICROMOUNTERS OF NEW ENGLAND

January 1986 Newsletter #103

The next regular meeting of the Micromounters of New England will be on Sunday, January 19, 1986 at Boston University's Department of Geology. Our host for this meeting will be John Stewart. Parking will be available behind the Geology building located off of Bay State Road.



DUES! DUES! DUES! DUES!

Dues are currently due. Please bring your dues to the next meeting or send them to Treasurer Janet Cares so that your name will be placed on the membership list (published in the March Bulletin) and you can continue to receive uninterupted mailings of the club newsletter. Check your mailing label to see if you still owe dues to the club (you will have an "85" after your name). Changes in mailing labels are as of the printing date of this newsletter.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Bill Kelly & Elaine Hondorf
4 Lawndale Road
Stoneham, MA 02180
(617) 245-2014

Ed Field
17 Le Clair Terrace
Chicopee, MA 01013
(413) 592-6718

CONGRATULATIONS! to members Dermot Samuda and Julie Baker who were married on November 6, 1985. We all wish them much happiness!

Are any members having trouble receiving the bulletin in time for the meetings? Even though I try to give a month's advance notice about upcoming meetings, I would like to hear from members having bulletin problems. Please check the postal cancellation date on your envelope and count how many days it took to receive the bulletin, and then let me know this figure. In this way I hope to pinpoint trouble spots in the mailings and try to be especially careful to see that those issues arrive in time.--Editor

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF THE MMNE at the Harvard Mineralogical Museum

We met on Sunday, November 24, 1985 at Harvard University, and we thank Carl Francis for this excellent meeting place where there are many micromounts to examine. Our Steve Cares is responsible for a great part of this.

There were 30 members in attendance. Among other guests present was Bob Hawkins from New Jersey.

The meeting was opened for business by President Palmer Sevrens at 1:45 p.m. There was no Secretary's report. our Treasurer, Janet Cares, reported that there was over $1000 in the treasury.

Discussion was held on whether there should be a family membership instituted. Janet spoke on this idea. It was decided that anyone with ideas on this matter speak to President Palmer. Thus far, the idea was tabled.

Next, liability insurance for our May Northeast Meeting was discussed. Marilyn Dodge spoke about the Eastern Federation Insurance Plan which the Rhode Island Mineral Hunters, Inc. now has. However, the MMNE do not belong to the Federation. The insurance question was tabled and the Secretary was asked to write to the Ladd Agency in North Syracuse, NY, the underwriters of the Federation policies, and inquire whether our group could get liability insurance for this one event.

A club address was discussed.

All members were asked to sign the Gunnar Bjareby Memory Page. The business meeting adjourned at 2 p.m.

After our meeting, we went downstairs to the Geological Lecture Hall where we honored the memory of Gunnar Bjareby, who had been elected to the Micromounters Hall of Fame. Gunnar's wife and son were present and accepted the plaque. Gunnar was admitted under the Old Timer Category. Many of the micromounters present spoke of their memories of Gunnar. This was very interesting and sentimental. Gunnar has joined an illustrious group of micromounters.

A list of publications by Gunnar and about Gunnar was available. We all salute this "Expert" Micromounter and hold him in our memories.

Respectfully submitted,
Ralph L. Carr, Jr., Secretary

A CHALLENGE TO RHODE ISLAND COLLECTORS

The mineral pumpellyite is named for Raphael Pumpelly, who is perhaps best known for his work on the minerals of the Michigan copper country, but who resided in Rhode Island for the last twelve years of his life. Thus far, this mineral has never been reported from Rhode Island, but the possibilities are good as it may be found in a variety of habitats such as basalt, trap rock, or schist.

It is usually found in groups or sprays of tiny brittle needles (often flattened), and is easily overlooked, partly because of its small size, but also because without observation under magnification, it may be confused with chlorite, amphiboles, or epidote with which it is often associated. Chlorites are readily distinguished as they are very soft (hardness about 2½), have a lower specific gravity than pumpellyite, are attacked by acid, and generally resemble mica. The blue-green color of pumpellyite may be the best clue for distinguishing it from actinolite, tremolite, or epidote, as the more readily observed properties of these species are very close to those of pumpellyite. All crystallize in the monoclinic system, but pumpellyite may appear to be orthorhombic.

So look over your Rhode Island actinolites, tremolites, chlorites, and epidotes carefully. You could be the first to report pumpellyite and add it to the list of Rhode Island minerals. --Janet Cares

ROCKS AND MINERAL MAGAZINE--Coming in 1986: The March/April issue's "Who's Who in Mineral Names" will feature Gunnar Bjareby and bjarebyite; the Sept./Oct. issue will be devoted to Rhode Island with articles by local authors; a St. Hilaire update and an issue devoted to Maine (dates unknown). Rocks and Minerals is available for $23 per year, check payable to Heldref Publications, 4000 Albermarle Street NW, Washington, DC 20016

Page 3 of this newsletter contains an update of minerals from the Foote Quarry, Kings Mountain, NC.

TABLE 1: Minerals Found at the Foote Quarry as of June 1978* , Kings Mountain, Cleveland County, North Carolina

- Actinolite (amphibole)
- Albite
- Analcime
- Apatite (see Fluorapatite)
- Apophyllite
- Arsenopyrite
- Autunite
- Axinite (see Ferroaxinite)
- Bavenite
- Beraunite
- Bertrandite
- Beryl
- Bikitaite
- Biotite
- Birnessite
- Bityite
- Brannockite (formerly UK7)
- Calcite
- Cassiterite
- Chalcopyrite
- Chlorite (group, variety undetermined)
- Clinozosite (Epidote group)
- Collinsite (see Fairfieldite)
- Colomite
- Columbite (see Ferrocolumbite)
- Cookeite
- Cryptomelane
- Cyrilovite (problematical, compare wardite)
- Diopside
- Eakerite (formerly UK3)
- Eosphorite
- Epidote
- Eucryptite
- Fairfieldite (see Collinsite)
- Ferrisicklerite
- Ferroaxinite
- Ferrocolumbite (see Columbite)
- Fersmite
- Fluorapatite
- Fluorite
- Frondelite
- Grossular
- Gypsum
- Heterosite (Purpurite)
- Holmquistite (amphibole)
- Hureaulite
- Hydromagnesite
- Hydroxyl-herderite
- Jahnsite
- Laumontite (zeolite)
- Lithiophilite
- Lithiophorite
- Lithiophosphate
- Magnetite
- Messelite
- Microcline
- Milarite
- Mitridatite
- Montebrasite
- Montgomeryite
- Muscovite
- Natrolite (zeolite)
- Paravauxite
- Phosphosiderite (Metastrengite)
- Prehnite
- Pyrite
- Pyrrhotite
- Quartz
- Rhodochrosite
- Rockbridgeite
- Roscherite
- Schorl (Tourmaline)
- Serpentine (variety undetermined)
- Siderite
- Sphalerite
- Spodumene
- Staurolite
- Stannian Titanite
- Strengite
- Strunzite
- Swinefordite (Montmorillonite group)
- Switzerite (formerly UK6)
- Talc
- Tetrawickmanite
- Tourmaline (see Schorl)
- Triploidite
- Uraninite
- Uralolite
- Uranophane
- UK2
- UK5
- UK6
- Vivianite
- Zircon
- UK Sulfosalt (Kato)

Formula, reference source, class, crystal system, and descriptive remarks were given for each mineral in the original list (Marble and Hanahan, 1978).

TABLE 2: Minerals Identified from the Foote Quarry Since June 1978

SPECIES	*FORMULA*	*CLASS & CRYSTAL SYSTEM*	*REMARKS*
Cacoxenite	$Fe_{24}^{+3}(PO_4)_{17}(OH)_{15} \cdot 18H_2O$	Phosphate—Hexagonal	Yellow; very small balls with beraunite, mitridatite, and strunzite in oxidized zone.
Earlshannonite	$Mn(Fe_2^{+3})_2(PO_4)_2(OH)_2 \cdot 4H_2O$	Phosphate—Monoclinic	Dark red-brown on mitridatite, rockbridgeite and jahnsite in oxidized zone.
Grossular	$Ca_3Al_2(SiO_4)_3$	Silicate—Cubic	By analysis from wallrock
Helvite	$Mn_4Be_3(SiO_4)_3S$	Silicate—Cubic	Pale to bright yellow blebs to very sharp crystals on albite, apatite, with bertrandite, stannian titanite (balls), chlorite and unknown #2.
Kingsmountite	$(Ca, Mn^{+2})_4(Fe^{+3},Mn^{+3})Al_4(PO_4)_5(OH)_4 \cdot 12H_2O$	Phosphate—Monoclinic	Color dull to white in balls or tufts on albite and quartz.
Laueite	$Mn^{+2}Fe_2^{+3}(PO_4)_2(OH)_2 \cdot 2H_2O$	Phosphate—Triclinic	Color yellow to golden with jahnsite, rockbridgeite, strengite, mitridatite, strunzite, and beraunite in oxidized zone.
Metaswitzerite	$(Mn^{+2},Fe^{+3})_3(PO_4)_2 \cdot 4H_2O$	Phosphate—Monoclinic	Originally described as switzerite now considered to be the oxidized form of that mineral. (UK 1)
Rutile	TiO_2	Oxide—Tetragonal	
Switzerite	$(Mn^{+2},Fe^{+2})_3(PO_4)_2 \cdot 7H_2O$	Phosphate—Monoclinic	Pale pink to orange-pink bladed crystals with albite and quartz in vugs in pegmatite and on joint planes. (UK 6)
Whiteite	$(Mn^{+2},Ca)(Fe^{+2},Mn^{+2})Mg_2Al_2(PO_4)_4(OH)_2 \cdot 8H_2O$	Phosphate—Monoclinic	Cream to yellow aggregates with paravauxite.