

MICROMOUNTERS OF NEW ENGLAND



The MMNE was organized on November 5, 1966 for the purpose of promoting the study of minerals that require a microscope.

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Dues are \$4.00 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 Editor.

This bulletin may be quoted if credit is given. --- Club Address is c/o Editor.

→ NEXT MONTH

The next meeting of the MMNE will be on Saturday, February 7, 1987, at the Shrewsbury Public Library, Shrewsbury, MA.

JANUARY 1987

NEWSLETTER #111

The next regular meeting of the Micromounters of New England will take place on Sunday, January 11, 1987 at Boston University. Our host will again be John Stewart, and we will be meeting in the Geology building (see map below).

NOTICE: DUES INCREASE

As announced in the November newsletter, a vote was taken on the amount of dues for 1987 during the November meeting, and it was decided to raise them to \$4 per person. Dues are due in January, and a 1987 membership list will be drawn up following the March meeting and will appear in the April newsletter, so be sure to get them in soon. Bring them to the next meeting or mail them to Treasurer Janet Cares (remember checks should read: Micromounters of New England).

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

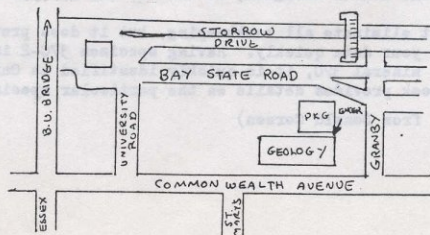
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THE CORSON NUMBERING SYSTEM By Eugene Meehler

How do you arrange your collection? Is the Dana system too complex and hard to use? Or like mine, is it just numbers in order of acquisition and without any rhyme or reason? Well here is a simple, easy method.

At the May 1986 meeting, Donald Corson showed me the neat way he arranges his collection in alphabetical order using Fleischer's "Glossary of Mineral Species". Each mineral was assigned a number starting with 1A. Since my glossary is in Florida, the names and examples given have been taken from the "Encyclopedia of Minerals" with the hope that the examples are meaningful. Acanthite is 1A, Abulumolite is 2A, and Acanthite is 3A (cont. page 2....)



The following message from President Frank Leighton arrived shortly after the last newsletter had been sent to the printer. We enclose it now and apologize for the delay.

I would like to make a few comments on the recent Rhode Island show--"This is New England". First and foremost, a rousing round of applause must be given to MARILYN DODGE for the splendid job she did in putting on this fine mineral show. Not only were there a very good number of dealers, but also a very large presentation of fascinating and interesting displays. We seldom see such a glittering collection of beautiful minerals as we did at this Rhode Island Show.

And, while on the subject of displays, I would like to thank the Monaghans, Bob and Shelley for bringing their fine display of micromounts with color prints made from the same minerals. I was pleased to see the large numbers of people who admired their display and then stopped to inquire about microscopes and micromounting.

I want to thank our most distant former member and president of the micromounters, Ray Denicourt, of Florida, for stopping by to see us and to leave a very nice batch of give-aways; it was a pleasure to talk with him, and his gift of micros was most welcome. Also, a thank you goes to member Paul Smith of Fairfax, Virginia, for his batch of give-aways of material from Fort Royal, Virginia.

We had another visitor, Curtis Glenn of the Bergen County Mineral and Paleontology Society of New Jersey. He came by and brought us a box of minerals from Halls Harbour, Nova Scotia, to be used as give-aways. We had a pleasant conversation with him and he is a very interesting and knowledgeable man concerning minerals.

So, all in all, I believe that we have had a very interesting day at Warwick, and the people of the Rhode Island Mineral Hunters must be congratulated for having such a fine show.

Your fearless Prez, Frank

(CORSON SYSTEM, CONT.)

etc., to the end of the A's. The same was done for the B's (Babephite is 1B, Babingtonite is 2B) and on thru the alphabet. As the Glossary was updated for new species, these were added in alphabetical order. (A new mineral between 64M and 65 M would become 64.1M.)

The first Ajeite (23A) specimen acquired is 23A-1. The second is 23A-2, etc. Minerals are filed in Alpha-numeric order in a flat containing about 200 m/m specimens. The first flat would contain specimens that were A's. Or, if there were more than 200 A's (including duplicates) the 1st flat might include, for example, 1A thru 75A. The next flat would be 76A thru the end of the A's.

In addition to the Glossary number, a loose-leaf notebook is used to list each specimen and its pertinent data. For example, if carbonate-apatite is 37C, the first specimen would be 37C-1, Carbonate-apatite, Harvard Quarry, Greenwood, ME. The next one would be 37A-2, Carbonate-apatite, Twin Tunnel Mine, Newry, ME. Other notations such as specimen size, exceptional beauty, cost, crystal shape, and anything else you wish can be included. Several different minerals can be listed on one sheet. Or there may be more than 50 calcite specimens in your collection and that one mineral could require several pages.

Where several species are present in one specimen, the rarest or best species would determine the number assigned, as that is the one you would be most likely to locate.

This doesn't eliminate all bookkeeping, but it does provide definitive numbers, and you can find your data quickly. Having specimen 37C-2 in your hand and the Glossary open to mineral 37C, it is quickly identified as Carbonate-apatite. The loose-leaf notebook provides details on the particular specimen.

(with permission from Donald Corson)